



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

Office of Executive Investigations Public Corruption Unit



Case Number: EI-14-0224

**Subjects: Craig Capri, Megan Hunsicker
& Elena Pasek**

Judicial Circuit: Fifth

County: Lake

Case Agent: Inspector Jackson Athaide

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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA

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FDLE

PUBLIC CORRUPTION UNIT

OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE INVESTIGATIONS INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

CASE NUMBER:	EI-14-0224	DATE:	February 10, 2026
CASE AGENT:	Inspector Jackson Athaide		
SUBJECT(S):	Eustis Police Department Senior Staff Assistant Megan Hunsicke, Eustis Police Department Accreditation Manager Elena Pasek, & Eustis Police Department Chief of Police Craig Capri		
INCIDENT DATE(S):	From June 10, 2025, to August 13, 2025.		
INCIDENT LOCATION(s):	Lake County, 5th Judicial Circuit		
ALLEGATION(S):	F.S.S. 838.021: Corruption by Threat Against Public Servant – Second Degree Felony F.S.S. 117.105: False or Fraudulent Acknowledgments – Third Degree Felony F.S.S. 839.13(1): Falsifying Records – First Degree Misdemeanor F.S.S. 837.02(1): Perjury in Official Proceedings – Third Degree Felony		

INVESTIGATIVE PREDICATE:

On October 13, 2025, Gary Winheim, a member of the City of Eustis Police Pension Board of Trustees, made allegations to the Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) against Eustis Police Department (EPD) Chief of Police Craig Capri concerning official misconduct and abuse of power. Winheim asserted that Chief Capri misused his position by threatening and/or coercing members of his police department, who are also Police Pension Board members, to vote against Winheim's reappointment to the board.

During the investigation, information was collected that warranted further inquiry into the alleged misuse of the State of Florida Notary Commission by EPD Senior Staff Assistant Megan Hunsicker. Additionally, further information indicated the need for investigation into potential record falsification and perjury in an official proceeding by EPD Accreditation Manager Elena Pasek.

On October 28, 2025, FDLE OEI PCU Inspectors Jackson Athaide and Daniel Barbara met with retired EPD Captain Gary Winheim and his wife, [REDACTED]. Mr. and Mrs. Winheim filed a criminal complaint with the LCSO against EPD Chief of Police Craig Capri for corruption. LCSO generated a report (LCSO case number 250113185) which was sent to OEI Inspectors for review. Below is a summary of all the criminal activities investigated during the FDLE inquiry.

Allegation I: Corruption by Threat Against Public Servant (F.S. 838.021) - Second Degree Felony

Mr. Winheim, a member of the Eustis Police Pension Board of Trustees (EPPB), had a term set to expire in August 2025. He alleged that Chief Capri attempted to manipulate the election and voting process for the EPPB. Mr. Winheim claimed that EPD members informed him of Chief Capri using his position as chief to influence them to vote against Mr. Winheim's reinstatement to the board. He alleged that Chief Capri promised special treatment to one individual and threatened termination to another in exchange for voting against Mr. Winheim's reinstatement.

Allegation II: False or Fraudulent Acknowledgments (F.S. 117.105) – Third Degree Felony

Mrs. [REDACTED] made accusations against EPD Senior Staff Assistant Megan Hunsicker and EPD Accreditation Manager Elena Pasek. She requested public records from the EPD regarding the Automated Training Management System (ATMS) status of officers who retired, resigned, or were terminated during Chief Capri's tenure. Mrs. Winheim received a CJSTC-61 form related to the separation of former EPD Officer Wilson Santos. The form included a notary stamp with Hunsicker's name and an expiration date of November 27, 2027. However, the notarization signature indicated that the form was certified by Pasek on March 6, 2023. Since notary commissions in Florida are valid for four years, the stamp on the form could not have been valid on the date it was supposedly signed. Based on this information, Mrs. [REDACTED] alleged that Hunsicker misused her official notary stamp by certifying Pasek's signature on an FDLE CJSTC-61 form at a later date than was indicated on the form.

Allegation III: Falsifying Records (F.S. 839.13(1)) – First Degree Misdemeanor; and Perjury in Official Proceedings (F.S. 837.02(1)) – Third Degree Felony

During the investigation, OEI Inspectors requested records from FDLE's ATMS regarding Santos's separation from the EPD. ATMS provided OEI Inspectors with a copy of Santos's disciplinary file, which included a CJSTC-61 form documenting his separation from the agency. This form was different from the one provided to Mrs. [REDACTED] in response to her public records request. OEI Inspectors compared the form received from ATMS with the one given to Mrs. [REDACTED] by the EPD. Although both forms documented the same incident, the information varied; one was handwritten while the other was typed, and the forms contained materially different information, prompting further investigation into the potential manipulation of a public record.

Due to the allegations concerning actions taken by Chief Capri and his staff while serving in an official capacity and actions related to government business and police records, FDLE OEI initiated an investigation.

Intake of information: Gary and Stephenie Winheim statement collection:

On October 15, 2025, OEI Inspectors were tasked with reviewing a complaint against Chief Capri regarding Threats Made by an Employer to Control Votes of Employees. LCSO Detective Joseph Paduano recorded the receipt of the complaint under case number 250113185. The following is a summary of the case review:

On October 13, 2025, Detective Paduano met with Mr. and Mrs. Winheim at the LCSO (360 West Ruby Street, Tavares, Florida 32778). Mr. Winheim provided a timeline of events to Detective Paduano that led to his suspicion that Chief Capri attempted to manipulate the EPPB election process. Detective Paduano documented Mr. Winheim's allegations, which were subsequently forwarded to the FDLE OEI for review as an impartial third party.

OEI Inspectors examined Mr. Winheim's complaint and concluded that his allegations were directed at Chief Capri for threats made by an employer to influence an employee's vote.

According to the official website of the City of Eustis (<https://www.eustis.org/Home>), the City Commission included the following members: Mayor Willie Hawkins, Vice Mayor Gary Ashcraft, Commissioner Michael Holland, Commissioner George Asbate, and Commissioner Emily Lee. The City of Eustis' EPPB was designated as a board of five members responsible for managing pension assets, determining benefit claims, and ensuring the effective operation of the retirement plan, as specified in the Florida Statutes. EPPB seats one and two must be filled by citizens of Eustis and appointed by the City Commission. EPPB seats three and four are required to be occupied by active EPD officers and appointed by EPD members. EPPB seat five was elected by the chairs of seats one, two, three, and four. The EPPB consisted of Keneth Birkhofer (seat one), Diane Thomas (seat two), Sergeant Chris Horst (seat three), Officer Chris Fiedler (seat four), and Gary Winheim (seat five). At the time of Mr. Winheim's complaint to LCSO, the vote for seat five of the EPPB had already concluded, and Mr. Winheim had been re-elected to the board of trustees.

On October 28, 2025, OEI Inspectors conducted a voluntary, sworn, and recorded interview with Mr. and Mrs. Winheim concerning their complaint against Chief Capri. It is important to note that Mr. Winheim was previously a captain of the EPD and served on the EPPB for over twenty years. At Mr. Winheim's request, Inspectors Athaide and Barbara traveled to his residence located at [REDACTED]. Mr. Winheim provided the following timeline of events:

On June 10, 2025, Mr. Winheim, Birkhofer, and Thomas were requested to submit a letter of resignation or a request for reappointment to the EPPB. Mr. Winheim was notified by Sasha Garcia, the city attorney, that the city wished to clean up the EPPB due to some members' terms being expired. Mr. Winheim found the request out of the ordinary and possibly being done to start the process of pushing him off the EPPB. Mr. Winheim believed that it was because he does not have a good relationship with members of the EPD and recently had a contentious conversation with Chief Capri.

On June 13, 2025, Mr. Winheim submitted his request for reappointment to the EPPB. Mr. Winheim expressed his concerns to the EPPB Attorney, Sean Sendra, that he was being pushed off the EPPB. Mr. Winheim asked Sendra to monitor the situation closely to ensure the actions taken by the commission remain in line with city policy.

On August 7, 2025, a regularly scheduled City Commission meeting occurred, and they discussed the EPPB appointments. Commissioner Michael Holland nominated Birkhofer and Thomas to be reappointed to the EPPB. Mayor Willie Hawkins said to wait because there were other applicants, including Reginald Ward and Shaquita Hill. Once Commissioner Holland moved to approve Birkhofer and Thomas, Mayor Hawkins interjected and said, "The board is just going to elect Reggie, right?" Mr. Winheim believed the actions and statements by the board during the commission meeting to be evidence that they were trying to elect Reginald Ward to push Mr. Winheim out.

On August 13, 2025, the regularly scheduled EPPB meeting occurred. Mr. Winheim virtually attended the meeting using Zoom. The portion of the meeting pertaining to his election took forty-five minutes to discuss, which was out of the ordinary. During the deliberation period, Sergeant Horst and Officer Fiedler did not speak at all. Ultimately, Birkhofer said he did not wish to "play games" and was "tired of this city's politics." Birkhofer then nominated Mr. Winheim for the fifth seat of the EPPB and was later confirmed by all members of the board.

Mr. Winheim spoke with Sendra regarding the meeting being out of the ordinary. Sendra told Mr. Winheim that he was approached by Birkhofer prior to the meeting to discuss concerns regarding interference with the election. His concerns were allegedly similar to those that Mr. Winheim had.

Mr. and Mrs. Winheim attended the next city commission meeting, where he was scheduled to be re-appointed to the EPPB, although he was not on the agenda. After the meeting, Mr. and Mrs. Winheim approached Deputy City Manager Miranda Burrowes and asked why he was not being reappointed. Burrowes said that the commission was trying to figure out a way to tell him no and were upset they could not deny his position.

At the upcoming city commission meeting, Mr. Winheim was appointed to the fifth seat of the EPPB. Mr. Winheim explained that his appointment did not include the customary ceremonial pleasantries and expressions of gratitude typically given to an appointee for their volunteer service. He found this to be unusual and additional proof that the city did not want him on the EPPB.

Mr. Winheim believed his poor relationship with Chief Capri and the command staff of the EPD was the reason the city commission did not want him on the board. Mr. Winheim alleged that members of the EPD had been instructed not to associate with him. Mr. Winheim suggested that Chief Capri made the day to day lives of EPD officers very difficult if they associated with him.

Mr. Winheim was later told by Sergeant Horst that Chief Capri said if he voted for Mr. Winheim, then he would be terminated. Chief Capri made the alleged threat to Sergeant Horst while in a room with other people. Mr. Winheim did not know who else was in the room. Mr. Winheim was later told that Officer Fiedler was interested in obtaining a position within the agency as the School Resource Officer of Eustis Elementary School. Mr. Winheim was told that Chief Capri promised Officer Fiedler the position if he voted "no" for Mr. Winheim's reappointment. Mr. Winheim acknowledged that he was not the victim but wished to report Chief Capri for bribing Officer Fiedler and threatening Sergeant Horst into voting against Mr. Winheim's reappointment to the EPPB.

Mrs. [REDACTED] identified herself as an independent journalist who ran a facebook.com page about exposing government corruption. Mrs. [REDACTED] made public posts where she exposed alleged corruption in the City of Eustis on Facebook.com and at public events. Mr. Winheim said he was approached by members of the city and told to "shut your wife up." Mr. Winheim refused and said, "It doesn't work that way."

Interview of EPD Sergeant Christopher Horst

Sergeant Horst said he was a member of the EPPB as one of the two sworn EPD members. Sergeant Horst explained the responsibilities of the EPPB and how each member was selected or elected. Sergeant Horst identified Gary Winheim as one of the five members of the EPPB.

OEI Inspectors asked Sergeant Horst to explain Chief Capri's concerns with the EPPB. Sergeant Horst said, "It was made pretty apparent that he didn't want Gary back on the board, and we should be voting him off." Chief Capri told Sergeant Horst that he did not feel the agency needed Mr. Winheim on the EPPB. Chief Capri also said he was going to attend the EPPB meeting where the vote would be cast for Mr. Winheim's seat. Sergeant Horst took the statements to mean that Chief Capri wanted to watch Sergeant Horst and ensure he voted properly.

OEI Inspectors asked why Chief Capri and Mr. Winheim did not get along. Sergeant Horst avoided the question and said that he was just trying to work four and a half more years to reach retirement, and he hated getting involved in the dispute between Chief Capri and Mr. Winheim. Sergeant Horst then said the dispute originated when Mr. Winheim retired. Mr. Winheim felt that Chief Capri did not treat him fairly when he left the agency. Inversely, Chief Capri did not appreciate the internet/social media activity of Mrs. [REDACTED]. Sergeant Horst described Mrs. [REDACTED]'s online activity as "going on a crusade" against the City of Eustis and the EPD. Chief Capri saw the online posts and believed they made him look bad.

Sergeant Horst was asked if Chief Capri told him how to vote in the EPPB election for the fifth seat that was previously held by Mr. Winheim. Sergeant Horst said, "Yeah." When asked what Chief Capri specifically said, Sergeant Horst explained that Chief Capri did not explicitly order him to vote a certain way, but implied that he was to vote against Mr. Winheim.

OEI Inspectors asked whether Sergeant Horst's employment was ever threatened if he didn't vote against Mr. Winheim's reappointment, or if he was promised any special position within the agency. In response, Sergeant Horst described a meeting with Chief Capri and Captain Jonathan Fahning which took place a few weeks before the vote. At the time, Sergeant Horst believed the meeting was about a disagreement he had with Captain Kenneth Toler which had been resolved a few weeks prior. Sergeant Horst said Chief Capri was very angry while discussing the issue between him and Captain Toler. Sergeant Horst asked Chief Capri why they were revisiting something that had been resolved two weeks earlier. Chief Capri said, "Well, if you don't want to work here anymore, we can make that happen." Sergeant Horst replied, "I do want to work here. I want to work four and a half more years." Chief Capri said, "I'm not sure you'll be working four and a half more days." Sergeant Horst said he was not sure what Chief Capri meant by that. Suddenly, Chief Capri transitioned the meeting to the topic of Mr. Winheim's seat on the EPPB. Chief Capri began to make comments about how he wanted Mr. Winheim off the EPPB. Sergeant Horst said the transition in topic was sudden but he believed Chief Capri did it intentionally. Sergeant Horst implied that the meeting was used as a tool to imply he could be terminated and encourage him to vote against Mr. Winheim.

Sergeant Horst said he and Officer Fiedler spoke numerous times about the pressure they felt to vote against Mr. Winheim. Officer Fiedler told Sergeant Horst that he had felt the same pressure.

On August 13, 2025, Mr. Winheim's seat on the EPPB was put to a vote at the regularly scheduled meeting. Sergeant Horst was so uncomfortable about attending the meeting that he debated whether he should call out of work to avoid casting a vote in front of Chief Capri. Ultimately, Sergeant Horst attended the meeting; Chief Capri did not attend, and Mr. Winheim was voted in by all members of the EPPB.

Sergeant Horst believed EPPB Board Member Kenneth Birkhoffer was behaving unusually during the meeting. Sergeant Horst approached Birkhoffer about the vote. Birkhoffer said he had received a call from an undisclosed person who notified him of the pressure being put on Sergeant Horst and Officer Fiedler. Birkhoffer said he brought the information to the EPPB board attorney who said they should go ahead with the vote because no one was present to oppose Mr. Winheim.

On a later date, Sergeant Horst was confronted by Chief Capri in the parking lot of the EPD. Chief Capri asked Sergeant Horst, “Did I threaten you about the vote?” and Sergeant Horst reflexively said, “No.” Sergeant Horst was surprised by the question. Chief Capri told him that he was aware Mr. Winheim had filed a complaint and that it was going to be resolved. Sergeant Horst did not know what that meant but did not make any further comments.

Sergeant Horst did not recall Chief Capri ever directly threatening his job if he did not vote against Mr. Winheim. However, the discussions he had with Chief Capri made him feel his job was in jeopardy if he did not vote against Mr. Winheim. Sergeant Horst said he felt that Chief Capri was implying that if he did not vote against Mr. Winheim, he would be fired. Sergeant Horst provided details regarding the effect being fired would have on his retirement. His retirement benefit had the potential to double if he worked four more years. Sergeant Horst believed Chief Capri knew that and used it as leverage when he said, “I don’t know if you will be here four and a half more days.”

Interview of EPD Officer Christopher Fiedler

Officer Fiedler identified himself as a sworn officer with the EPD and a member of the EPPB. OEI Inspectors informed Officer Fiedler that allegations had been made against Chief Capri regarding statements he may have made to influence the EPPB membership. Officer Fiedler stated that he had no knowledge of any statements made by Chief Capri. OEI Inspectors asked if Officer Fiedler knew anyone within the EPD who wanted Mr. Winheim removed from the EPPB. Officer Fiedler said he did not speak with anyone specifically about Winheim’s membership in the EPPB.

OEI Inspectors asked Officer Fiedler if Chief Capri attempted to influence his vote in any EPPB elections. Officer Fiedler stated that the only discussion he had with Chief Capri was about lowering the EPD officer’s pension contributions for the benefit of the EPD officers. He asserted that Chief Capri never asked him to vote in a particular way or offered any special benefits to influence his vote. Officer Fiedler said that if anyone attempted to influence his vote, he would resign from his position on the EPPB.

Interview of EPD Captain Jonathan Fahning:

OEI Inspectors asked Captain Fahning if he recalled being present for a conversation between Sergeant Horst and Chief Capri around July 22, 2025. Captain Fahning confirmed his presence but was unsure about the initial reason for Sergeant Horst’s meeting with Chief Capri. He remembered it being related to the EPPB and the appointment of Mr. Winheim. Captain Fahning mentioned that there was a continuing personal conflict between Winheim and Chief Capri and Chief Capri frequently voiced his disapproval of Winheim’s reappointment to the EPPB.

OEI Inspectors asked if Captain Fahning was aware of any situation where Chief Capri used his official position to influence any EPPB member’s vote regarding the board’s composition. Captain Fahning responded that the chief had “... expressed his concerns and desires to people regarding the pension board and how to vote.” He recalled Chief Capri stating, “You’ve got five years or five days, depending on how you vote,” to Sergeant Horst during the meeting on July 22, 2025. Captain Fahning noted that Chief Capri followed this statement with laughter, indicating he was joking. However, Captain Fahning felt the comment was inappropriate and was unsure if Sergeant Horst

would interpret it as a joke or a genuine threat. When asked for his impression of the statement, Captain Fahning remarked that as an administrator, one must choose words carefully since subordinates might take them literally. He stated he would not have made such a comment due to the high likelihood that Sergeant Horst would interpret it literally.

Captain Fahning also stated that “the chief is a unique guy.” He did not believe that Chief Capri meant everything he said, as he tended to lead with his emotions and make impulsive remarks. It was said that Chief Capri would become upset about certain issues and express his frustrations during patrol shift briefings, which Captain Fahning found difficult from an administrative perspective. He recognized that he and Chief Capri “did not always agree,” and understood if other members of the agency had personal disagreements with Chief Capri.

When asked whether Chief Capri made any remarks to Officer Fiedler regarding the EPPB, Captain Fahning acknowledged that the issue of removing Winheim from the EPPB was a frequent topic within the agency. Chief Capri had clearly communicated his desire to have Winheim removed to Officer Fiedler and Sergeant Horst. However, Captain Fahning was not aware of anyone offering Officer Fiedler any incentives in exchange for influencing his vote.

Interview of EPD Captain Kenneth Toler

Captain Toler was aware of allegations that Chief Capri had threatened officers to vote against Winheim’s reappointment. Winheim and Chief Capri had a strained relationship due to a personal disagreement that was worsened by the tense atmosphere surrounding Winheim’s retirement. Captain Toler indicated that Winheim’s position on the EPPB provided him with indirect influence within the city, which Chief Capri opposed. Captain Toler was aware of rumors that Officer Fiedler and Sergeant Horst had been threatened by Chief Capri regarding voting Winheim off the board.

Additionally, Captain Toler stated he had heard rumors of Chief Capri making casual comments to EPPB members about being “put back on night shift” or “making their life a living hell.” However, Captain Toler asserted that he had never personally witnessed Chief Capri threaten or promise anything to influence anyone’s vote on the EPPB. He further remarked that Chief Capri “says a lot of stuff.”

OEI Inspectors inquired whether Chief Capri had ever made a casual comment perceived as a threat, where the subject did not comply, and the threat was then acted upon. Captain Toler did not recall any instances where a specific threat was executed due to an officer’s noncompliance with Chief Capri’s requests.

While discussing the EPPB’s functions, Captain Toler clarified that the board does not directly influence the amount each officer contributes to their pension in relation to the city. He explained that the Police Union negotiates contributions, not the EPPB.

Throughout the interview, Captain Toler elaborated that he was aware of rumors within the EPD regarding Chief Capri being impulsive with his statements and often expressing his opinions when upset. Allegedly, Chief Capri did not want Winheim on the EPPB and communicated this clearly to more than just Officer Fiedler and Sergeant Horst. Finally, Captain Toler mentioned that he had never personally witnessed Chief Capri unethically promising someone a benefit to influence their vote on the EPPB, nor had he seen Chief Capri threaten anyone with termination to influence their vote.

Interview of EPPB Board Member Kenneth Birkhofer:

OEI Inspectors informed Birkhofer of the allegations that EPD Chief Capri made threatening comments to members of the EPPB to influence their votes against Winheim's appointment. Regarding Winheim's recent appointment to the board, Birkhofer provided additional information explaining the election process. He stated that in the past, if the five current members of the EPPB wished to remain, the city would not post an opening for applicants. On August 7, 2025, a commission meeting was convened, and Birkhofer was ultimately re-appointed. After the appointment, Birkhofer and the rest of the EPPB were scheduled to meet on August 13, 2025, to vote on the fifth seat of the board that had previously been held by Winheim.

On August 12, 2025, at 0712 hours, Birkhofer received a text message from Captain Toler that read, "*Hey big guy, I need some career advice from my former favorite Captain. When are you available today?*" Later that day, Birkhofer called Captain Toler, and they spoke for approximately twenty minutes. During the conversation, Captain Toler allegedly said, "*Man, there is some crazy stuff going on around here.*" He allegedly stated that Chief Capri was running the police department like it was the "*Sopranos*," acting as if he could do whatever he wanted and threatening people.

Birkhofer advised Captain Toler not to sign anything and, if there was a potential for any criminal charges, to speak to the state attorney's office or the Eustis City Commission. Captain Toler then suggested that Chief Capri had the commission "in his pocket." He also informed Birkhofer that Chief Capri was trying to remove Winheim from the EPPB. Birkhofer stated that he did not personally witness Chief Capri make any suspicious statements and only heard the rumor from Captain Toler.

As a result of the conversation with Captain Toler, Birkhofer contacted the EPPB attorney, Sean Sendra, to inquire about the allegations. Sendra ultimately advised him to let the election play out and see what happens, explaining that unless the election was manipulated, there was nothing to be done.

On August 13, 2025, the fifth seat previously held by Winheim was up for a vote. No other applicants were present to be considered for the fifth seat of the EPPB. During the deliberation, Sergeant Horst and Officer Fiedler were silent and did not contribute, which Birkhofer found very strange. Winheim was ultimately elected and reinstated to the EPPB.

After the meeting, Birkhofer approached Sergeant Horst to address his fiduciary responsibility to the board and his lack of involvement in the deliberation process. In response, Sergeant Horst stated that he had been informed he could be assigned to night shift for the remainder of his career if he did not vote against Winheim. Birkhofer decided not to continue the conversation with Sergeant Horst, as he had heard similar allegations from Captain Toler.

Birkhofer characterized his interactions with Chief Capri as professional. He noted that he had heard rumors of Chief Capri making threats in the past, but he had never witnessed such behavior himself.

Refusal to provide a statement by EPPB Board Member Diane Thomas and Attorney Sean Sendra:

OEI Inspectors contacted EPPB civilian member Diane Thomas regarding the allegations against Chief Capri. Thomas advised that she had not heard of any allegations of election interference against Chief Capri or any board members reporting it. She indicated that she had no information pertinent to the investigation and did not wish to provide a formal statement.

OEI Inspectors contacted EPPB Board Attorney Sean Sendra regarding the allegations against Chief Capri. Sendra stated that he was not involved in the allegations and had no information to provide. He also mentioned that he

preferred not to not give a formal statement due to his role as legal counsel for the EPPB.

Interview of EPD Chief of Police Craig Capri:

It is important to note that during the interview with Chief Capri, he chose to have Attorney Laura Hargrove of Gause & Hargrove PLLC present as his legal representative.

OEI Inspectors informed Chief Capri of the allegations against him concerning the EPPB election process. Inspector Athaide explained that Winheim alleged that he threatened and coerced Sergeant Horst and Officer Fiedler to vote against Winheim's appointment to the EPPB.

OEI Inspectors asked if Chief Capri had ever made any statements to Sergeant Horst or Officer Fiedler regarding how they should vote on the pension board seat previously held by Mr. Winheim. Chief Capri stated that he had never instructed them on how to vote.

OEI Inspectors referred to a conversation that occurred in July between Chief Capri, Captain Fahning, and Sergeant Horst. The conversation concerned a disagreement between Sergeant Horst and Captain Toler about how paperwork should be completed. Chief Capri mentioned that there were some disagreements because Sergeant Horst was complaining about Captain Toler. He stated that he called Sergeant Horst in to tell him to stop "running his mouth about the captain."

Attorney Hargrove inquired if the inspectors were asking if Chief Capri recalled a specific conversation with Sergeant Horst and Captain Fahning. Chief Capri responded that he did not recall a specific conversation, but he remembered a situation where Captain Toler was upset because Sergeant Horst was "bashing all the captains." Chief Capri indicated that he told Sergeant Horst to "cut it out" and noted that he had to address that issue with Sergeant Horst approximately every six months. Chief Capri stated that Sergeant Horst regularly complained about various issues, including finances.

OEI Inspectors informed Chief Capri that Sergeant Horst stated that during a conversation involving Chief Capri, Captain Fahning, and himself, the pension board election was mentioned. Sergeant Horst believed that his job security with the Eustis Police Department was contingent upon how he voted for the pension board members. Chief Capri denied this claim, saying, "it's not true." OEI Inspectors explained that Sergeant Horst felt Chief Capri suggested he could be fired if he did not vote against Winheim for the fifth seat on the EPPB. Chief Capri reiterated that this assertion was false and mentioned that Sergeant Horst had come to him regarding Winheim, to which Chief Capri reportedly replied that he did not care how Sergeant Horst voted.

OEI Inspectors inquired if Chief Capri ever told Sergeant Horst that he could be with EPD for either four days or four months depending on how he voted on the pension board. Chief Capri stated that he had not made any such comments regarding the pension board. He explained that Sergeant Horst was always disgruntled and that he could either stay or go. Chief Capri allegedly told Sergeant Horst, "... we are doing things differently here and he could stay for five days or five years." Chief Capri mentioned that Sergeant Horst expressed a desire to stay and subsequently said he appreciated Chief Capri for securing pay raises for them. Chief Capri advised him to stop complaining about the captains to subordinates.

Chief Capri further clarified that when he made the comment about five days or five years, it pertained to Sergeant Horst's performance at the police department and not to how he voted on the EPPB election.

OEI Inspectors asked Chief Capri if he had promised Officer Fiedler a position as a school resource officer if he voted against Winheim for the EPPB. Chief Capri replied, "No, absolutely not."

The following findings are based on the information obtained during OEI's investigation:

- Mr. and Mrs. Winheim alleged FDLE OEI Inspectors that Sergeant Horst stated that Chief Capri threatened him with termination if he voted against Winheim's reinstatement to the EPPB Board. Sergeant Horst also reportedly told the Winheim's that Chief Capri promised Officer Fiedler a preferred position at Eustis Elementary School as a School Resource Officer if he voted against Winheim's reinstatement to the EPPB.
- Sergeant Horst believed Chief Capri was attempting to intimidate him with the threat of termination if he did not vote against Winheim's reappointment to the EPPB. Additionally, Sergeant Horst indicated that Chief Capri did not directly instruct him on how to vote but he felt it was implied that he should oppose Mr. Winheim.
- Officer Fiedler stated that he had never faced pressure, threats, or requests to vote in a particular way during the EPPB appointment elections. He also noted that if anyone had tried to influence his actions as a member of the EPPB in any way, he would have resigned.
- Captain Fahning reported that he witnessed a conversation between Sergeant Horst and Chief Capri in July 2025. Captain Fahning recalled that they talked about the EPPB, during which Chief Capri remarked, "You've got five years or five days, depending on how you vote." After making this statement, Captain Fahning remembered Chief Capri dismissing it with laughter and stating that he was joking.
- Captain Toler reported that he had heard rumors of Chief Capri making remarks to EPPB members about "being returned to the night shift" or "making their lives a living hell" if they did not vote against Winheim's reappointment to the EPPB. However, Captain Toler noted that he had never observed Chief Capri unethically offering someone a benefit to influence their vote on the EPPB, nor had he seen Chief Capri threaten anyone with termination to sway their vote.
- EPPB Board Member Birkhofer mentioned that he had heard rumors regarding Chief Capri's attempts to manipulate the EPPB member election process. However, Birkhofer did not witness Chief Capri making unethical promises or threatening EPPB members to influence their votes.
- Chief Capri refuted the allegation that he attempted to sway Sergeant Horst or Officer Fiedler to vote against Winheim's reappointment to the EPPB. He explained that he had communicated his opinions to Sergeant Horst and Officer Fiedler regarding how the EPPB could assist the city in saving money, but he asserted that he was not concerned about the identities of the EPPB members. Chief Capri also denied having threatened Sergeant Horst with termination or proposing a favorable position to Officer Fiedler in exchange for a vote against Winheim.

Intake of information: [REDACTED]

On October 28, 2025, Inspectors OEI Inspectors conducted a voluntary, sworn, and recorded interview with Mr. and Mrs. Winheim. During the interview, Mrs. [REDACTED] stated that she submitted a public records request to the city of Eustis for various documents. She received a copy of the FDLE Affidavit of Separation (CJSTC 61) from the EPD concerning the termination of Santos.

Mrs. [REDACTED] provided the inspectors with a copy of CJSTC form 61, which was completed and signed by EPD Agency Administrator Elena Pasek. The signature was dated March 6, 2023, and was reportedly witnessed and notarized by Notary Public, EPD Senior Staff Assistant Megan Hunsicker. Mrs. [REDACTED] noted that the notary stamp included the name Megan Hunsicker (Commission # HH426404) and an expiration date of November 26, 2027.

According to Florida State Statute (F.S.S.) 117.01(1), in Florida, a notary commission and related stamp are valid for four (4) years. Based on the expiration date of November 26, 2027, the notary stamp could not have been valid at any time before November 27, 2023. The CJSTC form 61 indicated that the form was signed outside the period during which the stamp would be valid.

OEI Inspectors requested and received records from the Florida Department of State (FDOS), Division of Corporations all records associated with Hunsicker's 2023 commission term and her previous term. The records included two Notary Public Commission Applications that were filled out by Hunsicker. Both forms were complete and contained accurate information reflecting Hunsicker and her employment with the EPD. The first Notary Public Commission was granted and had a term from November 27, 2019, through November 26, 2023 (Notary ID 1597154). The second notary commission was granted and had a term from November 27, 2023, through November 26, 2027 (Notary ID 1597154). FDOS also provided a letter explaining that the renewal commission was processed on July 27, 2023. The renewal commission can be processed up to six months before the previous commission's expiration date; however, the renewed commission cannot be used until the new term begins.

According to the information provided, the notary stamp used on the CJSTC form 61 was processed on July 27, 2023, and issued on November 27, 2023. This indicates that the notary stamp could not have been in Hunsicker's possession on March 6, 2023. The information indicated that the dates on the form might be incorrect or that the form was filled out at a later time.

Interview of EPD Senior Staff Assistant Megan Hunsicker:

Hunsicker was informed that inspectors had located a notarized CJSTC-61 form related to Santos's separation from the EPD. Hunsicker was asked if she was aware of any issues related to the form. Hunsicker acknowledged there was an issue with the form and mentioned that the EPD had received a public records request for the document. Hunsicker stated that she and her supervisor, Pasek, retrieved the file and determined that the original form filled out by Pasek appeared "like crap." Pasek informed Hunsicker that she intended to redo the form and asked if Hunsicker could re-notarize it. Hunsicker agreed to re-notarize the form and used her stamp without considering the ramifications. Hunsicker mentioned that she already submitted her sworn statement to the Florida Notary Section at the FDOS, claiming that she believed she was acting correctly by redrafting the form and had

not considered the dates. Hunsicker remarked, “not that I would have gone and used... you know... I don’t have my old stamp.”

Hunsicker was asked to provide further details regarding her statement to the FDOS. She stated that Mrs. [REDACTED] submitted a complaint to the FDOS concerning the dates on the form and the dates on the notary stamp. Hunsicker received notification and submitted a statement to the FDOS, claiming she had never received any information following her submission.

Hunsicker then stated that the CJSTC-61 form concerning Santos was completed on the date indicated on the form given to Mrs. [REDACTED]. She mentioned that the form was entered into CJSTC’s ATMS with the correct information included. Hunsicker noted that it was completed in a timely manner and that Pasek wanted it to be redone before including it in the results of the public records request because she was unhappy with its appearance.

Hunsicker was asked when the form was recreated. She explained that on the day they received the public records request, Pasek was reviewing all the records to ensure they were complete. During this review, they found the CJSTC-61 form, and Pasek commented that “the name looked horrible; you can’t even really read it.” Hunsicker stated that Pasek planned to redo the form due to its illegibility, and Hunsicker agreed without considering it a significant issue. When asked if anyone had the original form, Hunsicker responded that Pasek should have it, as she manages all the FDLE paperwork for the agency.

Interview of EPD Accreditation Manager Elena Pasek:

It is important to note that during the interview with Pasek, she chose to have Attorney Hargrove present as her legal representative.

OEI Inspectors showed Pasek the FDLE affidavit of Separation form (CJSTC-61) concerning the separation of former EPD Officer Santos. The form shown to Pasek was allegedly completed and signed by her on March 6, 2023. Pasek reviewed the form and indicated that she recognized it. Inspector Barbara informed Pasek that the inspectors were investigating because the form had a notarization date of March 6, 2023, but the stamp used to certify the signature did not exist on that date.

OEI Inspectors explained that Hunsicker provided the following explanation for the discrepancy: the original CJSTC-61 form pertaining to Santos was messy and illegible, prompting Pasek to recreate it upon receiving a public records request from Mrs. [REDACTED]. Pasek confirmed that she recreated the form with the same information verbatim from the original before submitting it in the public records production. Pasek requested Hunsicker to notarize the form since the original had been notarized by her. Pasek acknowledged that Inspector that the description of the circumstances was accurate but could not recall the exact date when the form was recreated. When asked if Hunsicker questioned the recreation of the CJSTC-61 form, Pasek stated that she did not. She was then asked if she was Hunsicker’s supervisor, to which she replied, “to a point, yes.”

OEI Inspectors inquired if the original form still existed, and Pasek stated that she shredded it. When asked if the original form was submitted to FDLE as part of the documentation for Santos’s separation, Pasek replied, “no sir.” Inspectors asked what happened to the CJSTC-61 form once it was completed. Pasek said it was placed in Santos’s employee file at the EPD.

Pasek was asked if she knew the purpose of the CJSTC-61 form aside from it being in the employee file. Hargrove interjected and asked Pasek if FDLE was notified when someone left the police department. Pasek confirmed that they were. Hargrove asked how she notified FDLE of a separation. Pasek explained that she logged into CJSTC’s

ATMS and completed an officer separation. Pasek followed this process for Santos's separation. Hargrove inquired if Pasek kept a paper copy of the form at the EPD and if it remained there, to which Pasek answered yes.

Hargrove asked if the CJSTC-61 form in question was requested in the public records request by Mrs. [REDACTED]. Pasek affirmed that it was. Hargrove asked if Pasek located the form and recreated it because it was messy but contained the exact same information on the new form. Pasek confirmed that as well.

Next, Hargrove asked if Hunsicker notarized the original form. Pasek replied yes. Hargrove inquired if Hargrove notarized both the original and the new form, to which Pasek said yes. Hargrove asked if Pasek believed she was keeping all the records consistent across each form when she reproduced the record. Pasek affirmed this. Hargrove then asked Pasek if she ever intended to commit any sort of fraud. Pasek answered no.

OEI Inspectors asked Pasek if she saw any issues with the recreation of the form and the use of the notary stamp at a later date. Hargrove intervened when Pasek did not respond immediately, saying, "I believe she sees an issue now that there are questions that could arise because of this... she thought she was doing the right thing at the time. But there was nothing nefarious about it."

OEI Inspectors asked Pasek if the original CJSTC-61 form existed anywhere and if it was scanned into Santos's personnel file. Pasek said no. OEI Inspectors asked if the file would be scanned in at city hall; Pasek said, "eventually, but we keep them in-house." Hargrove interjected again, asking Pasek, "are you required to keep this?" Pasek responded, "I keep every paperwork."

City of Eustis Public Records Request: records regarding separation of Officer Wilson Santos

OEI Inspectors submitted a public records request to the City of Eustis requesting the following information: all copies of the Affidavit of Separation (CJSTC 61) for former Eustis Police Department Officer Wilson Santos, and the complete personnel file for former Eustis Police Department Officer Wilson Santos.

The first file contained within the public records production was labelled "CJSTC 61 Santos." The document was a copy of the CJSTC 61 form provided to inspectors by [REDACTED]. It was labeled as the FDLE Affidavit of Separation (CJSTC 61). The form was filled out by hand and pertained to the separation of Santos from the EPD. The employment start date was 8/10/2020, and the separation date was 3/3/2023. The reason for separation was noted as: "Voluntary separation or retirement in lieu of termination for violation of Section 943.13(4), F.S., or violation of moral character standards as defined in Rule 11B-27.0011, F.A.C." The form included a notice stating, "Section 943.139(2), F.S. requires the execution of an affidavit of Separation by the employing agency in a case of officer separation. WARNING: Intentional false execution of this affidavit of Separation constitutes a misdemeanor of the second degree." The agency administrator was identified and signed as Pasek, with the date noted as 3/6/2023. The form was notarized on 3/6/2023 by Hunsicker. The notary stamp displayed Hunsicker's commission number as HH 426404 and an expiration date of 11/26/2027. At the bottom of the form, the commission-approved revisions were dated 8/12/2021, and the effective date of the form was listed as 6/2022.

The second file contained within the public records production was labelled, "CJSTC 61 signed." The document was a different FDLE affidavit of Separation (CJSTC 61) for Santos. The form was typed, excluding the signatures at the bottom, and referred to the separation of Santos from the EPD. The employment date was shown as 8/10/2020 and the separation date as 2/08/2023. The reason for separation was noted as "Voluntary separation or retirement while being investigated for violation of Section 943.13(4), F.S., or violation of moral character standards defined in Rule 11B-27.0011, F.A.C." The form included a notice stating, "Section 943.139(2), F.S. requires the execution of an affidavit of Separation by the employing agency in cases of officer separation. WARNING: Intentional false execution of this affidavit of Separation constitutes a misdemeanor of the second

degree.” The agency administrator was listed and signed as Chief Capri on 4/11/2023. The form was notarized on 4/11/2023 by Alex Thomas (Thomas was later identified to have changed her name to Alex Price). The notary stamp included Price’s commission number as HH 356542 and an expiration date of 1/31/2027. At the bottom of the form, the commission approved revisions were dated 8/13/2020, and the effective date of the form was listed as 5/2021.

OEI Inspectors compared the information on two forms, which seemed to have conflicting details about the same incident. They found several differences, outlined below:

- First difference: The date of separation was different. On “CJSTC 61 Santos,” Santos’s separation date was 3/3/2023, while on “CJSTC 61 signed,” it was 02/08/2023.
- Second difference: The box checked for Separation Reasons in subsection 7 was different. On “CJSTC 61 Santos,” it indicated, “Voluntary separation or retirement in lieu of termination for violation of Section 943.13(4), F.S., or violation of moral character standards as defined in Rule 11B-27.0011, F.A.C.” In contrast, “CJSTC 61 signed” checked a box that stated, “Voluntary separation or retirement while being investigated for violation of Section 943.13(4), F.S., or violation of moral character standards defined in Rule 11B-27.0011, F.A.C.”
- Third difference: The Agency Administrator and the date the form was signed were different. On “CJSTC 61 Santos,” the agency administrator was Police Support Coordinator Elena Pasek, signed on 3/6/2023. On “CJSTC 61 signed,” it was Chief of Police Craig Capri, signed on 4/11/2023.
- Fourth difference: The notary information and stamp were different. On “CJSTC 61 Santos,” the form was notarized on 3/6/2023 by Megan Hunsicker, with a commission number of HH 426404 and an expiration date of 11/26/2027. On “CJSTC 61 signed,” it was notarized on 4/11/2023 by Alex Price, with a commission number of HH 356542 and an expiration date of 1/31/2027.
- Fifth difference: The Commission-Approved Revision date and the Form Effective Dates were different. On “CJSTC 61 Santos,” the Commission-Approved Revision date was 8/12/2021, and the Form Effective Date was 6/2022, indicating a newer version. On “CJSTC 61 signed,” the Commission-Approved Revision date was 8/13/2020, and the Form Effective Date was 5/2021, indicating an older version.

OEI Inspectors compared the CJSTC-61 forms to the remaining forms contained in the case packet for consistency.

The third file in the public records was labeled “CJSTC 78 signed.” It was another CJSTC form about Santos’s separation. Chief Capri signed it on April 11, 2023, which matched the CJSTC-61 form signed by Chief Capri on the same date, not the one given to Mrs. [REDACTED].

The fifth item in the public records was a PDF titled “Final Action Summary OPS 005 Santos.” It stated that “1. Subject resigned before the investigation ended,” which aligned with the CJSTC-61 form signed by Chief Capri on April 11, not the one given to Mrs. [REDACTED].

The eleventh item in the public records was the Professional Standards Investigative Report Narrative. Captain Toler completed and signed it on April 11, 2023, which matched the CJSTC-61 form signed by Chief Capri on that date, not the one given to Mrs. [REDACTED].

The twenty-third item was titled “Unpaid Suspension Notice.” It showed that Santos was placed on unpaid leave on February 8, 2023. Pasek noted this date on the CJSTC-61 form submitted to Mrs. [REDACTED], suggesting it could have been used as Santos’s separation date.

In summary, the CJSTC 61 form given to Mrs. [REDACTED] had a certification date of March 6, 2023. OEI Inspectors did not find any other forms related to Santos signed around that time. However, the other CJSTC 61 form found in public records had a certification date of April 11, 2023. Two other forms related to Santos’s separation were also signed on April 11, 2023.

The CJSTC 61 form provided to Mrs. [REDACTED] showed that Santos resigned instead of being terminated, while the form obtained through public records indicated he resigned during the investigation. All other forms in Santos’s case file recorded his resignation while under investigation, not in lieu of termination.

The CJSTC 61 form given to Mrs. [REDACTED] had incorrect information about Santos’s separation circumstances, separation date, and an incorrectly dated notary stamp. The CJSTC 61 form found in the public records mostly had accurate information and a valid notary stamp, with the only error being the separation date, which was listed as February 8, 2023, instead of March 8, 2023.

Review of CJSTC Disciplinary File – Wilson Santos

OEI Inspectors requested and received CJSTC’s complete disciplinary file maintained by the Commission for Officer Santos. It is important to note that F.S.S. 943.139(2) mandates that law enforcement agencies complete and maintain an affidavit of separation form (CJSTC-61) when a sworn officer leaves their agency. Florida statute requires that the form be completed under oath and serves as an official statement in accordance with F.S.S. 837.06. Law enforcement agencies may modify the separation file in the Automated Training Management System (ATMS), but it is the agency’s responsibility to notify CJSTC of any changes. Furthermore, CJSTC is not required to retain copies of the records used to submit or update a case.

OEI Inspectors observed the following relevant information in the disciplinary file of Santos:

The first page was a processing face sheet dated October 18, 2024, for Santos. Following this was the final order from the CJSTC documenting Santos’s voluntary surrender of his Criminal Justice Certification and related documents. Also included was a copy of Santos’s plea agreement concerning the criminal charges against him by the Fifth Judicial Circuit Court in Lake County.

The FDLE Professional Compliance profile sheet included in the disciplinary file recorded Santos’s employment dates as starting on August 10, 2020, with a separation date of March 3, 2023. Notably, the separation date of March 3, 2023, matched the date listed on the Affidavit of Separation (CJSTC-61) form provided to [REDACTED] as part of her public records request to the EPD.

The file also included a copy of a (CJSTC-61) that documented Santos’s separation from EPD. This form was not the one provided to Mrs. [REDACTED] but an exact copy of the CJSTC-61 form given to OEI Inspectors by EPD through the public records request. The CJSTC-61 form provided to OEI Inspectors indicated a separation date of February 8, 2023. This separation date differed from the date on the Professional Compliance Profile Sheet of March 3, 2023. Additionally, the CJSTC-61 form given to Mrs. [REDACTED] was not included in the CJSTC Disciplinary file, and it was unclear why the profile sheet reflected a separation date of March 3, 2023.

The disciplinary file also included a copy of the Internal Investigation Report (CJSTC-78) related to EPD's internal investigation of Santos. The CJSTC-78 form was identical to the form given to OEI Inspectors in response to the public records request.

The disciplinary file also contained a copy of the FDLE Case Summary for case number OR-14-0207, generated by Special Agent Stephen Brenton, along with court paperwork from Santos's criminal prosecution. On February 8, 2023, information was filed by Assistant State Attorney Cherish Adams in the Fifth Judicial Circuit Court in Lake County. The following day, February 9, 2023, Santos turned himself in and was arrested at the Lake County Jail. There was no indication of Santos being either terminated or resigning in February 2023.

The disciplinary file also contained a copy of the Internal Investigations report completed by Captain Toler. The narrative of this report documented that on February 8, 2023, Chief Capri, Captain Jonathan Fahning, and Captain Kenneth Toler met with Santos and placed him on unpaid administrative leave. Santos was arrested on February 9, 2023, and resigned on March 8, 2023.

In summary, Florida Statute requires Law Enforcement Agencies to notify CJSTC of any separation of a sworn law enforcement officer. Florida statute requires the agency to complete the Affidavit of Separation (CJSTC-61) form under oath and maintain it. The CJSTC-61 form found in the documents submitted to CJSTC regarding Santos was the CJSTC-61 form with the separation date of February 8, 2023. This was the same form obtained by OEI Inspectors from the EPD pursuant to a public records request. Based on the form being maintained by EPD records and CJSTC's original disciplinary file, it is likely to have been the original CJSTC-61 form related to Santos's separation from employment.

Review of FDOS' investigation into EPD Senior Staff Assistant Megan Hunsicker

On November 13, 2025, Hunsicker informed OEI Inspectors that Mrs. [REDACTED] had lodged a complaint with the FDOS against her regarding the notary stamp used on the CJSTC-61 form for Santos. Hunsicker provided a sworn statement to the FDOS as requested during that investigation.

OEI Inspectors requested and received all records related to the Notary investigation conducted by FDOS. The records included copies of letters sent to Mrs. [REDACTED] and Hunsicker throughout the process, as well as a copy of Mrs. [REDACTED]'s complaint and Hunsicker's sworn statement in response. A summary of the investigation's findings is as follows:

On July 17, 2025, the FDOS received Mrs. [REDACTED]'s complaint, which included a narrative detailing the allegations and the attached CJSTC-61 form for Santos. Mrs. [REDACTED] also included other CJSTC-61 forms completed by Hunsicker, which used the notary stamp appropriately.

The FDOS sent a follow-up letter to Hunsicker regarding the complaint and requested that she provide a sworn statement addressing the concerns. Hunsicker submitted a sworn statement received by the FDOS on September 22, 2025. The statement read: *"I am writing to clarify the notarized document involving Elena Pasek. The original document was duly notarized; however, due to readability concerns, the document had to be recreated. At that time, I believed I was acting appropriately by applying my notary stamp to the recreated version. I would also like to confirm that Elena Pasek was present during the notarization and is personally known to me."*

On December 11, 2025, the FDOS sent a letter to Mrs. [REDACTED] and Hunsicker regarding the conclusion of the investigation. Hunsicker was found to be in violation of state statute due to her improper use of the notary stamp. Since there were no prior disciplinary actions against Hunsicker, the FDOS offered her the option to take remedial

training rather than facing suspension of her Notary Commission. Hunsicker was required to complete the Notary Education Program and provide proof of completion within twenty days.

Based on the information provided, the FDOS determined that Hunsicker had violated Florida State Statute concerning the misuse of her notary stamp. Hunsicker acknowledged the misuse of the stamp, explaining that it was due to the previous form being illegible, which was consistent with her statement to the inspectors.

Follow-up Interviews of EPD Personnel

Due to the aforementioned inconsistencies located by OEI Inspectors, follow-up interviews were conducted of several EPD personnel. For the interviews described below, Inspector Athaide provided the interviewee with two distinct forms for reference. The first form is the handwritten CJSTC form 61 that was previously obtained by Mrs. [REDACTED] and signed by Pasek; this will be referred to as CJSTC-61 (1). The second form is the typed CJSTC-61 form, which is said to have been signed by Chief Capri on April 11, 2023; this will be referred to as CJSTC-61 (2). It is important to note that during the following interviews, Pasek, Hunsicker, Price, and Chief Capri all chose to have Attorney Hargrove present as their legal representative. David Carney did not request any legal representation during his interview.

Follow up Interview of EPD Senior Staff Assistant Megan Hunsicker:

OEI Inspectors directed Hunsicker's attention to both CJSTC-61(1) and CJSTC-61(2). OEI Inspectors inquired if Hunsicker recognized CJSTC-61(2), to which she responded, "not that I recall." OEI Inspectors then directed Hunsicker's attention to the completion date of CJSTC-61(2), which was approximately one month after the completion date of CJSTC-61(1), and asked if she was aware of any other CJSTC-61 forms being completed by anyone in relation to the Santos separation. Hunsicker stated that she was not aware of any other forms being completed other than the one completed by Pasek and herself. OEI Inspectors asked if she knew of anyone else at the EPD who regularly completed CJSTC-61 forms besides Pasek. Hunsicker replied that, to her knowledge, it was only Pasek.

Interview of EPD Code Enforcement Officer Alexandra Price:

OEI Inspectors directed Price's attention to CJSTC-61(2) and inquired if she recognized the form. Price responded that she did. OEI Inspectors then asked if Price had notarized the form, to which she replied affirmatively. OEI Inspectors proceeded to ask if anyone from the EPD records division was involved in the signing and notarization of CJSTC-61(2), and she answered, "No, it was just me and Capri." OEI Inspectors asked if she was aware of any other CJSTC-61 forms being completed in relation to the separation of Santos, and she said, "Not that I am aware of." Lastly, OEI Inspectors inquired if she was involved in any other part of the separation process, and she replied, "No."

Follow up Interview of EPD Chief of Police Craig Capri:

OEI Inspectors directed Chief Capri's attention to CJSTC-61(1) and confirmed that Chief Capri was aware of the investigation regarding the notary stamp on the form. OEI Inspectors also presented CJSTC-61(2), which was signed by him. OEI Inspectors inquired whether Chief Capri was familiar with CJSTC-61(2). Chief Capri replied, *"I'm familiar with the forms themselves, yes. But this is from 2023; if I signed it, then yes, I signed it."* When OEI Inspectors asked if he recalled filling out the form, Chief Capri responded, *"I don't usually fill out the forms; they bring them to me to sign, and I look at it and I'll sign."* He mentioned remembering the Santos case but indicated he did not specifically recall signing the form. Chief Capri acknowledged that the signature on the form was indeed his.

OEI Inspectors then asked Chief Capri if he was aware of the existence of CJSTC-61(1) when he signed CJSTC-61(2), to which Chief Capri replied that he was not aware. Chief Capri further stated, *“If there is one thing I learned from this, it is that I need to look at everything and slow down. I sometimes move at 100 miles an hour, and I have to slow down. A lot of good has come from all this because we have revamped our processes, implementing triple and double checks. I generally just sign things as the chief when they are brought to me. I won’t lie; sometimes they bring them to me, and I sign them.”*

OEI Inspectors asked Chief Capri if he would have filled out CJSTC-61(2) if he had known CJSTC-61(1) existed. Chief Capri explained that he never fills out the forms, as they are usually brought to him by either the captain or Elena. He claimed not to be an “Admin Guy” and stated that he only signs the administrative CJSTC forms when presented with them. OEI Inspectors then inquired whether Chief Capri had any role in submitting documents to ATMS. Chief Capri stated that aside from signing forms, he does not have any role. When asked if he knew who filled out CJSTC-61(2) before it was presented to him for signature, Chief Capri replied, *“I really don’t know.”* He mentioned that as a result of the investigation, he has altered his processes and now thoroughly reviews everything he signs before doing so.

Chief Capri advised that it could have been Captain Carney or Captain Kenneth Toler. OEI Inspectors then asked if Chief Capri knew what Carney’s position was when CJSTC-61(2) was brought to him for signature. Chief Capri stated he was unsure and that the form could have been brought to him by either Carney or Toler. He further asserted that he would not have signed the form had he known another form existed.

Interview of Former EPD Captain David Carney:

OEI Inspectors asked Carney to recall 2023, when Santos was involved in an internal investigation that led to his separation from the EPD. OEI Inspectors asked Carney’s role in the EPD at that time. Carney said he was the captain of Internal Affairs. OEI Inspectors asked if he conducted the internal investigation into Santos. Carney said he believed he handled most of it, with Captain Toler also being involved. OEI Inspectors then asked if Carney was familiar with the FDLE forms required when an officer separates from an agency. Carney mentioned that he had a cheat sheet to ensure he had everything necessary for the case file.

OEI Inspectors directed Carney’s attention to CJSTC-61 (1) and CJSTC-61 (2) and asked if he recognized either form as one, he had filled out. Carney stated he was not 100% certain, but he was sure that CJSTC-61 (1) was not completed by him. Carney expressed that he was 90% certain that CJSTC-61 (2) was filled out by him since it was neatly completed and electronically typed with the title of chief on the signature line. Carney said he would complete the form neatly and place it in the Internal investigation file for Chief Capri’s review and signature. Once the file was submitted to Chief Capri, Carney indicated that his role was over and he did not know what happened afterward.

OEI Inspectors asked Carney if he knew of any reason why two CJSTC-61 forms would have been completed for one officer’s separation from the agency. Carney stated he was unaware of any reason. OEI Inspectors inquired if Carney was aware of CJSTC-61 (1) when he filled out CJSTC-61 (2). Carney replied that he would not have filled out the form had he known the other existed. Carney acknowledged that the forms needed to be notarized and sent to the city, but he did not participate in that part of the process.

Follow up Interview of EPD Accreditation Manager Elena Pasek:

OEI Inspectors asked Pasek if a public records request was made to the EPD through Eustis City Hall, would the request be managed by Eustis City Hall or the EPD. Pasek said that if the request pertained to the police

department, then the police department would handle it. If the request included records maintained by Pasek, she would provide copies to Janel Fair, who would package the requested records for the requester.

OEI Inspectors asked Pasek if anyone other than her was responsible for completing and maintaining CJSTC forms, such as the CJSTC form 61. Pasek did not respond immediately, leading Hargrove to explain the following situation:

Pasek began her role at the EPD in a civil capacity in August 2022 and had to learn without formal training. She believed she needed to complete the CJSTC 61 forms when someone separated from the agency. Upon being shown CJSTC-61 (2) by Hargrove, Pasek stated she had never seen the form before. She conducted her own investigation and discovered that former Captain Carney had also completed a CJSTC 61 form related to Santos's separation. Pasek suggested that CJSTC-61 (2) was the form filled out by Carney. She noted that CJSTC-61 (2) was sent directly to Eustis Human Resources, and neither Carney nor she informed each other about the forms they completed. Pasek retained the form she completed (CJSTC-61 (1)) but was unaware of the other form allegedly filled out by Carney.

OEI Inspectors asked Pasek if she was responsible for submitting disciplinary packets to ATMS when an officer separated from the agency. Pasek clarified that she was not solely responsible for submitting the documents, as Carney submitted the documents related to Santos's separation. She added that she did not recall ever sending disciplinary packets to ATMS herself.

OEI Inspectors then directed Pasek's attention to CJSTC-61 (1) and CJSTC-61 (2). CJSTC-61 (1) indicated that Santos's reason for separation was "Voluntary separation or retirement in lieu of termination for violation of Section 943.13(4), F.S., or violation of moral character standards as defined in Rule 11B-27.0011, F.A.C." In contrast, CJSTC-61 (2) stated that Santos's reason for separation was "Voluntary separation or retirement while being investigated for violation of Section 943.13(4), F.S., or violation of moral character standards defined in Rule 11B-27.0011, F.A.C." It should be noted that the EPD Internal Investigation report concerning former Officer Santos indicated that he resigned from the EPD while under investigation. OEI Inspectors asked Pasek if she knew why the reasons for separation differed in the two forms, even though they referred to the same incident. Pasek replied that she did not know why there was a discrepancy.

OEI Inspectors then directed Pasek's attention to the separation dates on CJSTC-61 (1) and CJSTC-61 (2). CJSTC-61 (1) recorded the separation date as March 3, 2023, while CJSTC-61 (2) indicated it as February 8, 2023. Pasek was asked if she understood the reason for the differing dates. She proposed that February 8, 2023, was the date Santos was placed on administrative leave and that she noted March 3 on CJSTC-61 (1) because she was instructed to do so. Ultimately, Pasek expressed uncertainty about why the date on CJSTC-61 (2) differed from her form and mentioned that she only included the date on the form that she was told by an unidentified individual.

SECTION IIIB

Allegation II & III: Investigative Findings

The following findings are based on the information obtained during OEI's investigation:

- Mrs. [REDACTED] reported that the CJSTC-61 form (CJSTC-61(1)) completed by Pasek had a notary stamp that could not have been in Hunsicker's possession at the time the signature was dated. The expiration date of the stamp suggested that the form had been backdated, which violates Florida statutes.

- FDOS informed OEI Inspectors that the stamp used by Hunsicker on CJSTC-61(1) had neither been created nor requested by the certification date of the form. Although Hunsicker had a notary stamp issued to her at that time, it was a different stamp with a different expiration date. This indicates that the form may have been completed at a later date and subsequently backdated and stamped.
- The FDOS reviewed the improper use of the notary stamp and concluded that Hunsicker violated Florida Statute. The FDOS decided to require Hunsicker to complete remedial training instead of revoking her Notary Commission.
- Hunsicker and Pasek stated that they recreated CJSTC-61(1) and provided the copy to Mrs. [REDACTED]. They explained that the original CJSTC-61(1) was difficult to read, prompting Pasek to recreate the form after receiving a public records request from Mrs. [REDACTED]. Pasek confirmed that she replicated the form using the same information verbatim from the original. The original was then shredded before including the copy in the public records production. Pasek requested Hunsicker to use her notary stamp on the copy, as the original had been notarized by her, even though the stamp Hunsicker possessed was new and not valid when the original form was completed.
- OEI Inspectors made a public records request to the EPD and a request to CJSTC for all records related to the separation of Santos. In the production from EPD and CJSTC, a second CJSTC-61 form (CJSTC-61(2)) was provided regarding Santos's separation. CJSTC-61(2) contained significantly different information, was typed, was signed by Chief Capri, and was completed on a different date.
- Various other forms from the internal investigation and separation of Santos were provided in the public records request and the records request from CJSTC. CJSTC-61(1) and CJSTC-61 (2) were compared to the other forms, and the date from CJSTC-61(2) was consistent with other related forms. On the other hand, CJSTC-61 (1) was not consistent.
- Pasek and Hunsicker were confronted with CJSTC-61(2) and stated that they had never seen the form before. They claimed to be unaware of the existence of two different forms with two different sets of information.
- Pasek and Chief Capri conducted their own investigation and determined that former Captain Carney may have completed CJSTC-61(2) and provided it to Chief Capri without notifying Pasek.
- Carney was interviewed and stated that he most likely completed the form because it resembled his work and he would fill out the form to be signed by Chief Capri. Carney mentioned that he would not have had any reason to turn it over or notify Pasek.

SECTION IV

State Attorney

This summary, with all Investigative Reports and Related Items was provided to the State Attorney's Office for the Fifth Judicial Circuit for prosecutorial review and consideration of criminal charges in the matter.

Florida Department of Law Enforcement



Fifth Judicial Circuit

Case #: EI-14-0224

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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

On October 13, 2025, City of Eustis Police Pension Board of Trustees member Gary Winheim made allegations to the Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) against Eustis Police Department (EPD) Chief of Police Craig Capri for official misconduct and abuse of power. Winheim alleged that Chief Capri abused his position as chief when he threatened and/or coerced members of his police department, who serve as Police Pension Board members, to vote against Winheim's reappointment to the board. The allegations were forwarded to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's (FDLE) Office of Executive Investigations (OEI) Public Corruption Unit (PCU) for follow-up.

This investigative report documents the initial review of the complaint made by Gary Winheim against Chief Craig Capri.

On October 15, 2025, Inspector Jackson Athaide of the FDLE's PCU was assigned to review a complaint against EPD Chief Capri for threats by an employer to control the vote of an employee (F.S.S. 104.081), voter intimidation (F.S.S. 104.0615), and corruption (F.S.S. 104.061). LCSO Detective Joseph Paduano documented the receipt of the complaint under case number 250113185. A review of the case packet is as follows:

On October 13, 2025, Detective Paduano met with Mr. Winheim and his wife, [REDACTED], at the LCSO (360 West Ruby Street, Tavares, Florida 32778). Mr. Winheim was a member of the Eustis Police Pension Board of Trustees (EPPB), and his term was set to expire in August, 2025. Mr. Winheim believed EPD Chief Capri used his official position to influence members of the EPPB to vote against Mr. Winheim's reinstatement to the board. Mr. Winheim provided Detective Paduano with the following timeline of events.

" June 10: Received an email from the city requesting I Submit a revised board reappointment/resignation form.

June 11: City clerk sent Amanda from resource centers an email notification that the city would be filling the two positions held by Ken Birkhofer and Dianne Thomas and requested the board address my seat at the 8/13 meeting

June 13: Submitted my form to the City clerk via email and questioned resource centers as to why the city was doing this now and if they were doing it with any other boards. Resource

Case Number: EI-14-0224	Serial #: 1
Author: Athaide-4628	Office: Executive Investigations
Activity Start Date: 10/15/2025	Activity End Date:10/15/2025
Approved By: Cope-3157	

Description: Review of Gary Winheim's complaint

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centers was not aware of any other boards being adjusted.

August 7: City held a regularly scheduled commission meeting in which the pension board appointments were discussed. The makeup of the board was discussed and how the board needed to nominate individuals for specific seats. Tom Carino (city manager) explained that I was not a City resident and Shaquita Hill lived "just outside" of the City, so we were not eligible for seats #1 and #2 (city appointed). Commissioner Holland nominated Ken and Dianne, which was seconded by Vice Mayor Ashcraft and the motion passed. My name, along with Ward and hill were forwarded to the pension board as nominees for the 5th seat by Commission. At the end of the discussion during which Mayor Hawkins and Commissioner Asbate can be seen passing notes and communicating, Mayor Hawkins stated "so the board will elect Reggie then".

August 13: The regularly scheduled quarterly meeting of the pension board was held. I was out of town so I attended via zoom. At the point of my election I turned the meeting over to Dianne, who is the board secretary, to handle the election of the 5th seat. Ken immediately nominated me, stating he had enough city politics when he worked for the City and was not interested in playing games. Dianne had concerns regarding not considering the other nominees at all, since they were not in attendance nor did they submit any type of letter of interest to the board. During the 45 minute conversation between Ken and Dianne, both Chris Fiedler and Chris Horst said nothing. Eventually, Ken repeated his nomination and Dianne seconded. A vote was taken and all board members approved my appointment.

October 11: I received information via a source that Chief Capri told Chris Horst in a room with other people that if he voted for a certain board member, he would be terminated. The 5th seat held by me is the only seat Chris would have any vote in, as it is the seat elected by the board. I was also told Chris Fiedler, who had previously told the board in a meeting that it was very probable he would be retiring in August of 2025, had been promised a position as SRO if he did not vote for me. He was given the position after the vote.

October 13: I spoke with the board attorney who advised me Ken Birkhofer had approached him before the meeting on August 13 and expressed concerns regarding my election and how it was being handled. The Attorney specifically stated he had the same concerns I had, that the election was being tampered with."

Mrs. [REDACTED] also provided a video clip from the Eustis City Commission meeting on August 7, 2025, to Detective Paduano. The clip depicted Eustis Mayor Willie Hawkins and Commissioner George Asbate whispering and exchanging notes during the discussion regarding Mr. Winheim's seat on the EPPB. Mrs. [REDACTED] did not have any information explaining what was being discussed by Mayor Hawkins and Commissioner Asbate at that time.

Per the City of Eustis's official website (<https://www.eustis.org/Home>), the City Commission was comprised of the following members: Mayor Willie Hawkins, Vice Mayor Gary Ashcraft, Commissioner Michael Holland, Commissioner George Asbate, and Commissioner Emily Lee. The City of Eustis' EPPB was identified as a board of five members (seats) responsible for investing pension assets, determining benefit claims, and ensuring the proper operation of the retirement plan, as outlined in the Florida Statutes. EPPB seats one and two are required to be citizens of Eustis and be appointed by the City of Eustis' commission. EPPB board seats three

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and four are required to be active EPD officers and be appointed by members of the EPD. EPPB seat five was voted on by chairs one, two, three, and four of the EPPB. The EPPB was comprised of Keneth Birkhofer (seat one), Diane Thomas (seat two), Chris Horst (Seat 3), Chris Fiedler (seat four), and Gary Winheim (Seat five). At the time of Mr. Winheim's complaint to LCSO, the vote for seat five of the EPPB had been completed, and Mr. Winheim had been re-elected to the board of trustees.

Based on the allegations of public corruption, the LCSO forwarded the complaint to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's (FDLE) Office of Executive Investigations (OEI) Public Corruption Unit (PCU) for follow-up.

A copy of LCSO report 250113185 and related documents from LCSO are attached to this investigative report as related item number INV-1.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

On October 13, 2025, City of Eustis Police Pension Board of Trustees member Gary Winheim made allegations to the Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) against Eustis Police Department (EPD) Chief of Police Craig Capri for official misconduct and abuse of power. Winheim alleged that Chief Capri abused his position as chief when he threatened and/or coerced members of his police department, who serve as Police Pension Board members, to vote against Winheim's reappointment to the board. The allegations were forwarded to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's (FDLE) Office of Executive Investigations (OEI) Public Corruption Unit (PCU) for follow-up.

This investigative report documents the interview and statement collection from Gary Winheim.

On October 28, 2025, FDLE OEI PCU Inspector Jackson Athaide and FDLE OEI PCU Inspector Daniel Barbara conducted a voluntary, sworn, and recorded interview with Gary and [REDACTED] regarding the complaint against Eustis Chief of Police Craig Capri. Inspectors Athaide and Barbara traveled to Mr. Winheim's residence at [REDACTED] at his request.

Below is a brief synopsis of the statement provided by Mr. and Mrs. Winheim. The information is a summary of the interview and not a verbatim transcript. The complete recording of the interview is attached as a Related Item to this report:

Mr. Winheim was on the Eustis Police Pension Board of Trustees (EPPB) for more than twenty years. Previously, Mr. Winheim was a captain at the EPD and served as a sworn officer for over twenty years. Mr. Winheim explained how the EPPB works and how each member was elected. Mr. Winheim identified the members of the board as Kenneth Birkhofer (city-appointed seat), Diane Thomas (city-appointed seat), Chris Horst (Police Department-appointed seat), Chris Fiedler (Police Department-appointed seat), and himself (EPPB-elected seat).

On June 10, 2025, Mr. Winheim, Birkhofer, and Thomas were requested to submit a letter of resignation or a request for reappointment to the EPPB. Mr. Winheim was notified by Sasha Garcia, the city attorney, that the city wished to clean up the EPPB due to some members' terms being expired. Mr. Winheim found the request out of the ordinary and possibly being done to start the process of pushing him off the EPPB. Mr. Winheim believed that it was because he

Case Number: EI-14-0224	Serial #: 2
Author: Athaide-4628	Office: Executive Investigations
Activity Start Date: 10/28/2025	Activity End Date:10/28/2025
Approved By: Cope-3157	

Description: Interview - Gary and [REDACTED]

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does not have a good relationship with members of the EPD and recently had a contentious conversation with Chief Capri. The conversation was regarding promises Chief Capri made to his officers that he may not be able to deliver on.

On June 13, 2025, Mr. Winheim submitted his request for reappointment to the EPPB. Mr. Winheim was also communicating with the EPPB Attorney, Sean Sendra, and expressed his concern that he was being pushed off the EPPB. Mr. Winheim requested Sendra monitor the situation closely to ensure the actions taken by the commission remain in line with city policy.

On August 7, 2025, a regularly scheduled City Commission meeting occurred, and they discussed the EPPB appointments. Commissioner Michael Holland nominated Birkhofer and Thomas to be reappointed to the EPPB. Mayor Willie Hawkins said to wait because there were other applicants, including Reginald Ward and Shaquita Hill. Once Commissioner Holland moved to approve Birkhofer and Thomas, Mayor Hawkins interjected and said, "The board is just going to elect Reggie, right?" Mr. Winheim believed the actions and statements by the board during the commission meeting to be evidence that they were trying to elect Reginald Ward to push Mr. Winheim out.

On August 13, 2025, the regularly scheduled EPPB meeting was to occur. Mr. Winheim virtually attended the meeting using Zoom. Mr. Winheim stated that the portion of the meeting pertaining to his election took forty-five minutes to discuss, which was out of the ordinary. During the deliberation period, Horst and Fiedler did not speak at all. Ultimately, Birkhofer said he did not wish to "play games" and was "tired of this city's politics." Birkhofer then nominated Mr. Winheim for the fifth seat of the EPPB and was later confirmed by all members of the board.

Mr. Weinheim spoke with Sendra regarding the meeting being out of the ordinary. Sendra told Mr. Winheim that he was approached by Birkhofer prior to the meeting to discuss concerns regarding interference with the election. His concerns were allegedly similar to those that Mr. Winheim had.

Mr. and Mrs. Winheim attended the next city commission meeting, where he was supposed to be re-appointed to the board, although he was not on the agenda. After the meeting, Mr. and Mrs. Winheim approached Deputy City Manager Miranda Burrowes and asked why he was not being appointed. Burrowes said that the commission was trying to figure out a way to tell him no and were upset they could not deny his position.

During the next city commission meeting, Mr. Winheim was appointed to the fifth seat of the EPPB. Mr. Winheim elaborated that his appointment lacked the usual pleasantries and expressions of gratitude for the appointee's volunteer service to the City of Eustis. Mr. Winheim believed it to be odd and further evidence that the city did not want him to be on the EPPB.

Mr. Winheim believed his poor relationship with the chief of police and command staff of the EPD was the reason the city commission did not want him on the board. Mr. Winheim alleged that members of the EPD had been instructed not to associate with Mr. Winheim or shake his hand during EPPB meetings. Mr. Winheim suggested that Chief Capri made it very difficult for any officer who associated with him.

Mr. Winheim was later told by Chris Horst that Chief Capri said if he voted for Mr. Winheim, then

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he would be terminated. Chief Capri made the alleged threat to Horst while in a room with other people. Mr. Winheim did not know who else was in the room.

Mr. Winheim was later told that Chris Fiedler was interested in obtaining a position within the agency as the School Resource Officer of Eustis Elementary School. Mr. Winheim was told that Chief Capri promised Fiedler the position if he voted no for Mr. Winheim's reappointment.

Mr. Winheim acknowledged that he was not the victim, wished to report that Chief Capri had attempted to bribe Chris Fiedler and threatened Chris Horst into voting against Mr. Winheim in the EPPB election.

Mr. Winheim believed that other members of the commission also wished for him to be removed from the EPPB. Mrs. [REDACTED] identified herself as an independent journalist who runs a facebook.com page about exposing corruption in government. After Mr. Winheim retired, they did a year of travelling and decided to live in Lake County. Mrs. [REDACTED] believed she had a moral obligation to help clean up the place they chose to live.

Since then, Mrs. [REDACTED] had been very public with her exposure of alleged corruption in the City of Eustis on Facebook.com and at public events. Mr. Winheim said he was approached by members of the city and told to "shut your wife up." Mr. Winheim refused and said, "It doesn't work that way."

Mr. and Mrs. Winheim provided additional details regarding the poor relationship between Mr. Winheim and the EPD. Mr. Winheim provided additional information about alleged mismanagement of official complaints against the city and the police department. Mr. Winheim provided information about how Chief Capri attempted to manipulate the structure of the command staff to include members he brought over from the Daytona Beach Police Department.

At the conclusion of the sworn statement, Mr. and Mrs. Winheim swore their testimony was true before turning the recording device off.

After the interview was completed, Mrs. [REDACTED] provided Inspector Athaide and Inspector Barbara with a FDLE Affidavit of Separation (CJSTC 61) for Wilson Santos that she obtained via a public records request. The form was completed, notarized, and submitted by the EPD when Santos voluntarily separated from the agency on March 6, 2023.

The notary stamp bore the name Megan Hunsicker, who was an employee of the EPD. The notary stamp bore the expiration date of November 26, 2027. It should be noted that Mrs. [REDACTED] claimed notary stamps are only valid for four years. Mrs. [REDACTED] believed the form was fraudulently completed because the date the form was allegedly signed was March 6, 2023. If the notary stamp was only valid for four years, then the form could not have been notarized any earlier than November 26, 2023. Mrs. [REDACTED] provided Inspector Athaide with copies of the forms to be reviewed.

The audio recording of Mr. and Mrs. Winheim's statement is attached to this investigative report as INV-2.

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All documents provided to Inspector Athaide by Mr. and Mrs. Winheim relating to the fraudulent notary stamp are attached to this investigative report as INV-3.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

On October 13, 2025, City of Eustis Police Pension Board of Trustees member Gary Winheim made allegations to the Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) against Eustis Police Department (EPD) Chief of Police Craig Capri for official misconduct and abuse of power. Winheim alleged that Chief Capri abused his position as chief when he threatened and/or coerced members of his police department, who serve as Police Pension Board members, to vote against Winheim's reappointment to the board. The allegations were forwarded to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's (FDLE) Office of Executive Investigations (OEI) Public Corruption Unit (PCU) for follow-up.

This investigative report documents the interview and statement collection from EPD Sergeant Christopher Horst.

On October 28, 2025, Inspector Jackson Athaide and Inspector Daniel Barbara conducted a voluntary, sworn, and recorded interview with EPD Sergeant Horst regarding allegations of misconduct by Eustis Chief of Police Craig Capri. Inspectors Athaide and Barbara traveled to Sergeant Horst's residence at [REDACTED] at his request.

Below is a brief synopsis of the statement provided by Sergeant Horst. The information is a summary of the interview and not a verbatim transcript. The complete recording of the interview is attached as a Related Item to this report:

Sergeant Horst said he was a member of the City of Eustis' Police Pension Board of Trustees (EPPB) as one of the two sworn EPD members. Sergeant Horst explained the responsibilities of the EPPB and how each member was selected or elected. Sergeant Horst identified Gary Winheim as one of the five members of the EPPB.

Sergeant Horst was asked to explain the issue Chief Capri had with the EPPB. Sergeant Horst said, "It was made pretty apparent that he didn't want Gary back on the board, and we should be voting him off." Inspector Athaide asked why Chief Capri would want Mr. Winheim off the board. Sergeant Horst was told by Chief Capri that he did not feel the agency needed Mr. Winheim on the EPPB. Chief Capri also said he was going to attend the EPPB meeting where the vote would be cast for Mr. Winheim's seat. Sergeant Horst took the statements to mean that Chief Capri wanted to watch Sergeant Horst and ensure he voted properly.

Case Number: EI-14-0224	Serial #: 3
Author: Athaide-4628	Office: Executive Investigations
Activity Start Date: 10/28/2025	Activity End Date:10/29/2025
Approved By: Cope-3157	

Description: Interview - EPD Sergeant Christopher Horst

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Inspector Athaide asked why Chief Capri and Mr. Winheim did not get along. In response, Sergeant Horst explained that he was just trying to work four and a half more years to reach retirement, and he hated getting involved in the dispute between Chief Capri and Mr. Winheim. Sergeant Horst then said the dispute originated when Mr. Winheim retired. Mr. Winheim felt that Chief Capri did not treat him fairly when he left the agency. Inversely, Chief Capri did not appreciate the internet/social media activity of Mr. Winheim's wife, [REDACTED]. Sergeant Horst described Mrs. [REDACTED]'s online activity as "going on a crusade" against the City of Eustis and the EPD. Chief Capri saw the online posts and believed they made him look bad.

Inspector Athaide asked Sergeant Horst if Chief Capri told him how to vote in the EPPB election for the fifth seat that was previously held by Mr. Winheim. Sergeant Horst said, "Yeah." When asked what Chief Capri specifically said, Sergeant Horst explained that Chief Capri did not explicitly order him to vote a certain way, but implied that he was to vote against Mr. Winheim.

Inspector Athaide asked whether Sergeant Horst's employment was ever threatened if he didn't vote against Mr. Winheim, or if he was promised any special position within the agency. In response, Sergeant Horst described a meeting with Chief Capri and Captain Jon Fahning which took place a few weeks before the vote. At the time, Sergeant Horst believed the meeting was about a disagreement he'd had with Captain Kenneth Toler which had been resolved a few weeks prior. Sergeant Horst said Chief Capri was very angry while discussing the issue between him and Captain Toler. Sergeant Horst asked Chief Capri why they were revisiting something that had been resolved two weeks earlier. Chief Capri said, "Well, if you don't want to work here anymore, we can make that happen." Sergeant Horst replied, "I do want to work here. I want to work four and a half more years." Chief Capri said, "I'm not sure you'll be working four and a half more days." Sergeant Horst said he was not sure what Chief Capri meant by that, but he could only assume. Suddenly, Chief Capri transitioned the meeting to the topic of Mr. Winheim's seat on the EPPB. Chief Capri began to make comments about how he wanted Mr. Winheim off the EPPB. Sergeant Horst said the transition in topic was sudden but he believed Chief Capri did it intentionally. Sergeant Horst implied that the meeting was used as a tool to imply he could be terminated and encourage him to vote against Mr. Winheim.

Sergeant Horst identified the other sworn EPD member of the EPPB as Officer Christopher Fiedler. Sergeant Horst said the and Officer Fiedler spoke numerous times about the pressure they felt to vote against Mr. Winheim. Officer Fiedler told Sergeant Horst that he had felt the same pressure.

On August 13, 2025, Mr. Winheim's seat on the EPPB was put to a vote at the regularly scheduled meeting. Sergeant Horst was so uncomfortable about attending the meeting that he debated whether he should call out of work to avoid casting a vote in front of Chief Capri. Ultimately, Sergeant Horst attended the meeting; Chief Capri did not attend, and Mr. Winheim was voted in by all members of the EPPB.

Sergeant Horst believed EPPB Board Member Kenneth Birkhoffer was behaving unusually during the meeting. Sergeant Horst approached Birkhoffer about the vote. Birkhoffer said he had received a call from an undisclosed person who notified him of the pressure being put on Sergeant Horst and Officer Fiedler. Birkhoffer said he brought the information to the EPPB board attorney who said they should go ahead with the vote because no one was present to

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oppose Mr. Winheim.

On a later date, Sergeant Horst was confronted by Chief Capri in the parking lot of the EPD. Chief Capri asked Sergeant Horst, "Did I threaten you about the vote?" and Sergeant Horst reflexively said, "No." Sergeant Horst was surprised by the question. Chief Capri told him that he was aware Mr. Winheim had filed a complaint and that it was going to be resolved. Sergeant Horst did not know what that meant but did not make any further comments.

Sergeant Horst ultimately did not recall Chief Capri ever directly threatening his job if he did not vote against Mr. Winheim. However, the discussions he had with Chief Capri made him feel his job was in jeopardy if he did not vote against Mr. Winheim. Sergeant Horst said he could only assume that Chief Capri was implying that if he did not vote against Mr. Winheim, he would be fired.

Sergeant Horst provided details regarding the effect being fired would have on his retirement. His retirement benefit had the potential to double if he worked four more years. Sergeant Horst believed Chief Capri knew that and used it as leverage when he said, "I don't know if you will be here four and a half more days."

Throughout the interview, Sergeant Horst spoke about personal notes he took to document his interactions with Chief Capri. Sergeant Horst said he was unable to locate the notes but would take a photo of the notes and send them to Inspector Athaide when found.

On October 29, 2025, Sergeant Horst sent Inspector Athaide copies of the notes he could previously not locate. The notes were three pages long and described the situation where he and Captain Toler had a disagreement regarding paperwork. The notes then covered the conversation he had with Chief Capri and Captain Fanning on July 22, 2025. The notes were very similar to the testimony previously provided by Sergeant Horst and did not include any additional information indicating criminality.

A recorded copy of the interview conducted with Sergeant Horst is attached to this investigative report as INV-4.

A copy of the notes taken by Sergeant Horst are attached to this investigative report as INV-5.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

On October 13, 2025, City of Eustis Police Pension Board of Trustees member Gary Winheim made allegations to the Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) against Eustis Police Department (EPD) Chief of Police Craig Capri for official misconduct and abuse of power. Winheim alleged that Chief Capri abused his position as chief when he threatened and/or coerced members of his police department, who serve as Police Pension Board members, to vote against Winheim's reappointment to the board. The allegations were forwarded to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's (FDLE) Office of Executive Investigations (OEI) Public Corruption Unit (PCU) for follow-up.

This investigative report documents the interview and statement collection from EPD Sergeant Christopher Horst.

On October 28, 2025, FDLE OEI PCU Inspectors Jackson Athaide and Daniel Barbara conducted a voluntary, sworn, and recorded interview with EPD Officer Christopher Fiedler regarding allegations of misconduct by Eustis Chief of Police Craig Capri. The inspectors traveled to Eustis Elementary School at 714 Citrus Avenue, Eustis, Florida 32726 to speak with Officer Fiedler.

Below is a brief summary of Officer Fiedler's statement. The information is a summary of the interview and not a verbatim transcript. The complete recording of the interview is attached as a Related Item to this report:

Officer Fiedler identified himself as a sworn officer with the EPD and a member of the City of Eustis' Police Pension Board of Trustees (EPPB). He explained the responsibilities of the EPPB and its members. Officer Fiedler mentioned Gary Winheim and Sergeant Christopher Horst as two of the five members of the EPPB. Inspector Athaide informed Officer Fiedler that allegations had been made against Chief Capri regarding statements he may have made to influence the EPPB membership. Inspector Athaide asked Officer Fiedler if he was aware of the inspectors' inquiries. Officer Fiedler stated that he had no knowledge of any statements made by Chief Capri.

Inspector Athaide inquired whether Officer Fiedler was aware of anyone within the EPD who wanted Mr. Winheim removed from the EPPB. Officer Fiedler responded that he had not had any specific conversations about Mr. Winheim's membership in the EPPB.

Case Number: EI-14-0224	Serial #: 4
Author: Athaide-4628	Office: Executive Investigations
Activity Start Date: 10/28/2025	Activity End Date:10/28/2025
Approved By: Cope-3157	

Description: Interview - Officer Christopher Fiedler

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IR Number	4

Inspector Athaide asked Officer Fiedler if he knew whether Chief Capri and Mr. Winheim were friends. Officer Fiedler replied that he was aware Mr. Winheim's wife, [REDACTED], used her Facebook account to report on the City of Eustis. Mrs. [REDACTED] identified herself as an independent journalist who posted critical information regarding city governments, including Eustis PD and others in the vicinity. Officer Fiedler suggested that the content on Facebook could be a reason for any discord between Chief Capri and Mr. Winheim. He expressed understanding of Chief Capri's frustration, as he had seen Mrs. [REDACTED]'s posts and believed they harmed the city's reputation.

Inspector Athaide asked Officer Fiedler if Chief Capri or any of his subordinates had ever attempted to influence his vote in any EPPB elections. Officer Fiedler stated that he only discussed with Chief Capri ways to lower the EPD Officer's pension contributions for the benefit of the EPD Officers. He asserted that Chief Capri had never asked him to vote in a particular way or offered any special benefits to influence his vote. Officer Fiedler indicated that if anyone attempted to influence his vote, he would resign from his position on the EPPB.

A recorded copy of the interview is attached to this investigative report as INV-6.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

On October 13, 2025, City of Eustis Police Pension Board of Trustees member Gary Winheim made allegations to the Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) against Eustis Police Department (EPD) Chief of Police Craig Capri for official misconduct and abuse of power. Winheim alleged that Chief Capri abused his position as chief when he threatened and/or coerced members of his police department, who serve as Police Pension Board members, to vote against Winheim's reappointment to the board. The allegations were forwarded to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's (FDLE) Office of Executive Investigations (OEI) Public Corruption Unit (PCU) for follow-up.

This investigative report documents the interview and statement collection from EPD Captain Jonathan Fahning.

On November 13, 2025, FDLE OEI PCU Inspectors Jackson Athaide and Daniel Barbara conducted a voluntary, sworn, and recorded interview with EPD Captain Jonathan Fahning regarding allegations of misconduct involving Eustis Chief of Police Craig Capri. The inspectors went to Eustis City Hall, located at 10 North Grove Street #3, Eustis, Florida 32726, to speak with Captain Fahning.

Below is a brief summary of Captain Fahning's statement. This summary is not a verbatim transcript of the interview, and the complete recording is attached as a Related Item to this report:

At the start of the interview, Inspector Athaide asked Captain Fahning if he remembered being present for a conversation between Sergeant Christopher Horst and Chief Capri around July 22, 2025. Captain Fahning acknowledged that he was present but was uncertain about the initial reason for Sergeant Horst being called to speak with Chief Capri. He recalled that it was related to the voting on the Eustis Police Pension Board (EPPB), specifically concerning the vote of former Captain Winheim.

Inspector Athaide inquired whether the initial reason for the meeting was related to an issue between Sergeant Horst and Captain Toler regarding paperwork completion or the EPPB. Captain Fahning suggested that it may have been the original reason, but he was not certain.

Captain Fahning explained his understanding of the EPPB and identified Sergeant Chris Horst

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Author: Athaide-4628	Office: Executive Investigations
Activity Start Date: 11/13/2025	Activity End Date:11/13/2025
Approved By: Cope-3157	

Description: Interview - Captain Jonathan Fahning

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and Officer Chris Fiedler as current members of the EPPB from the EPD. When asked about the discussions during the meeting between Chief Capri and Sergeant Horst on July 22, 2025, Captain Fahning noted that there was an ongoing feud between Winheim and Chief Capri. Allegedly, Chief Capri did not support Winheim's position on the EPPB due to a personal dislike.

Inspector Athaide asked if Captain Fahning was aware of any situation where Chief Capri used his official position to influence any EPPB member's vote regarding the board's composition. Captain Fahning responded that the chief had "...expressed his concerns and desires to people regarding the pension board and how to vote." He recalled Chief Capri stating, " You've got five years or five days, depending on how you vote," to Sergeant Horst during the meeting on July 22, 2025. Captain Fahning noted that Chief Capri followed this statement with laughter, suggesting he was joking. However, Captain Fahning felt the comment was inappropriate and was unsure if Sergeant Horst would perceive it as a joke or a legitimate threat. When asked for his impression of the statement, Captain Fahning remarked that as an administrator, one must choose words carefully since subordinates might interpret them literally. He stated he would not have made such a comment due to the high likelihood that Sergeant Horst would take it literally.

Captain Fahning also mentioned that "*the chief is a unique guy.*" He did not believe Chief Capri meant everything he said, as he had a tendency to lead with his emotions and make impulsive statements. Allegedly, Chief Capri would become upset about certain issues and vent his frustrations during patrol shift briefings, which Captain Fahning found challenging from an administrative standpoint. He acknowledged that he and Chief Capri "*did not always see eye to eye,*" and understood if other agency members had personal disagreements with Chief Capri.

Captain Fahning was asked whether Chief Capri made any statements to Officer Fiedler concerning the EPPB. Captain Fahning was aware the issue of removing Winheim from the EPPB was a common topic within the agency, and Chief Capri had clearly expressed his desire to have Winheim removed to Officer Fiedler and Sergeant Horst. However, Captain Fahning did not know of anyone promising Officer Fiedler any benefits in exchange for swaying his vote.

The following will be maintained in the Related Items section of the case file:

INV-7 – A copy of the audio recording of the interview conducted with Captain Fahning.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

On October 13, 2025, City of Eustis Police Pension Board of Trustees member Gary Winheim made allegations to the Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) against Eustis Police Department (EPD) Chief of Police Craig Capri for official misconduct and abuse of power. Winheim alleged that Chief Capri abused his position as chief when he threatened and/or coerced members of his police department, who serve as Police Pension Board members, to vote against Winheim's reappointment to the board. The allegations were forwarded to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's (FDLE) Office of Executive Investigations (OEI) Public Corruption Unit (PCU) for follow-up.

This investigative report records the interview and statement collection from EPD Captain Kenneth Toler.

On November 13, 2025, FDLE OEI PCU Inspectors Jackson Athaide and Daniel Barbara conducted a voluntary, sworn, and recorded interview with EPD Captain Kenneth Toler concerning allegations of misconduct involving Eustis Chief of Police Craig Capri. The inspectors visited the EPD, located at 51 East Norton Avenue, Eustis, Florida 32726, to speak with Captain Toler.

Below is a brief summary of Captain Toler's statement. This summary is not a verbatim transcript of the interview, and the complete recording is attached as a Related Item to this report:

Inspector Athaide informed Captain Toler that the inspectors were present due to allegations concerning the Eustis Police Pension Board (EPPB) election process. Captain Toler stated he was aware of the allegations regarding Chief Capri allegedly threatening officers to vote against Winheim's reappointment to the EPPB. He mentioned that Winheim and Chief Capri had a poor relationship due to a previous personal disagreement. Captain Toler believed this was influenced by the tense atmosphere surrounding Winheim's retirement. He indicated that with Winheim being part of the EPPB, it granted him indirect influence within the city, which Chief Capri did not want. Captain Toler reiterated that Chief Capri publicly expressed his desire for Winheim to be removed to members within the EPD.

Captain Toler, a former member of the EPPB, was asked to explain how the pension board operated, its responsibilities, and how members are elected. He described the functioning of the

Case Number: EI-14-0224	Serial #: 6
Author: Athaide-4628	Office: Executive Investigations
Activity Start Date: 11/13/2025	Activity End Date:11/13/2025
Approved By: Cope-3157	

Description: Interview - Captain Kenneth Toler

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EPPB. Regarding the election of the fifth seat on the EPPB, which is filled by the existing four board members, Captain Toler noted he had heard rumors of Chief Capri discussing with EPPB members his desire to remove Winheim from the board. He was also aware of rumors that Officer Fiedler and Sergeant Horst had been approached by Chief Capri about voting Winheim off the board.

When asked if he was aware of Chief Capri making threats to board members to vote Winheim off, Captain Toler mentioned he had heard rumors of Chief Capri making casual comments to EPPB members about being “put back on night shift” or “making their life a living hell.” However, Captain Toler stated he had never personally witnessed Chief Capri threaten or promised anything to influence anyone’s vote on the EPPB composition. He further remarked that Chief Capri “says a lot of stuff.”

Inspector Barbara inquired if Chief Capri had ever made a casual comment perceived as a threat, where the subject did not comply and the threat was then acted upon. Captain Toler did not recall any instances where a specific threat was executed due to an officer's noncompliance with Chief Capri's wishes.

While discussing the EPPB's functions, Captain Toler clarified that the board does not directly influence how much each officer contributes to their pension relative to the city. He stated that the Police Union negotiates contributions, rather than the EPPB.

Throughout the interview, Captain Toler elaborated that he was aware of rumors within the EPD about Chief Capri being impulsive with his statements and frequently voicing his opinions when upset. Allegedly, Chief Capri did not want Winheim on the EPPB and clearly communicated this to more than just Officer Fiedler and Sergeant Horst. Lastly, Captain Toler mentioned he had never personally witnessed Chief Capri unethically promising someone a benefit to influence their vote on the EPPB and had also never seen Chief Capri threaten anyone with termination for influence over their vote.

The following will be maintained in the Related Items section of the case file:

INV-8 – A copy of the audio recording of the interview conducted with Captain Toler.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

On October 13, 2025, City of Eustis Police Pension Board of Trustees member Gary Winheim made allegations to the Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) against Eustis Police Department (EPD) Chief of Police Craig Capri for official misconduct and abuse of power. Winheim alleged that Chief Capri abused his position as chief when he threatened and/or coerced members of his police department, who serve as Police Pension Board members, to vote against Winheim's reappointment to the board. The allegations were forwarded to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's (FDLE) Office of Executive Investigations (OEI) Public Corruption Unit (PCU) for follow-up.

This investigative report records the interview and statement collection from Eustis Police Pension Board (EPPB) member Kenneth Birkhofer.

On November 17, 2025, FDLE OEI PCU Inspectors Jackson Athaide and Daniel Barbara conducted a voluntary, sworn, and recorded interview with Birkhofer regarding allegations of misconduct involving Eustis Chief of Police Craig Capri. The inspectors met Birkhofer at Starbucks, located at 15439 US Highway 441, Eustis, Florida 32726, to discuss the matter.

Below is a brief summary of Birkhofer's statement. This summary is not a verbatim transcript of the interview, and the complete recording is attached as a Related Item to this report:

Inspector Athaide informed Birkhofer that the inspectors were present due to allegations that EPD Chief Capri might have made threatening comments to members of the EPPB to influence their votes against Winheim's appointment. Birkhofer was first asked to explain the function of the EPPB and his role within it. He adequately described his role as a board member of the EPPB and his responsibilities to the stakeholders of the pension fund. Birkhofer identified Diane Thomas, Sergeant Christopher Horst, Officer Christopher Fiedler, Gary Winheim, and himself as the current five members of the EPPB. He explained that the board does not directly influence how much each officer contributes to their pension relative to the city, stating that the Police Union negotiates contributions instead of the EPPB.

Birkhofer confirmed that he was acquainted with Chief Capri because he was a member of the Chief Selection Committee that appointed Chief Capri to the position. At that time, Birkhofer was serving as the Interim Chief of Police.

Case Number: EI-14-0224	Serial #: 7
Author: Athaide-4628	Office: Executive Investigations
Activity Start Date: 11/17/2025	Activity End Date:11/17/2025
Approved By: Cope-3157	

Description: Interview - Kenneth Birkhofer

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When asked about Winheim's recent appointment to the board, Birkhofer provided additional information regarding the election process. He stated that in the past, if the five current members of the EPPB wished to remain, the city would not post an opening for applicants. On August 7, 2025, a commission meeting was convened, and Birkhofer was ultimately re-appointed. After the appointment, Birkhofer and the rest of the EPPB were scheduled to meet on August 13, 2025, to vote on the fifth seat of the board that had previously been held by Winheim.

On August 12, 2025, at 0712 hours, Birkhofer received a text message from EPD Captain Kenneth Toler that read, "*Hey big guy, I need some career advice from my former favorite Captain. When are you available today?*" Later that day, Birkhofer called Captain Toler, and they spoke for approximately twenty minutes. During the conversation, Captain Toler allegedly said, "*Man, there is some crazy stuff going on around here.*" He allegedly stated that Chief Capri was running the police department like it was the "*Sopranos*," acting as if he could do whatever he wanted and threatening people.

Captain Toler also alleged that Chief Capri was moving forfeiture money in a suspicious manner. Birkhofer advised Captain Toler not to sign anything and, if there was a potential for any criminal charges, to speak to the state attorney's office or the Eustis City Commission. Captain Toler then suggested that Chief Capri had the commission "in his pocket." He also informed Birkhofer that Chief Capri was trying to remove Winheim from the EPPB. Birkhofer stated that he did not personally witness Chief Capri make any suspicious statements and only heard the rumor from Captain Toler.

As a result of the conversation with Captain Toler, Birkhofer contacted the EPPB attorney, Sean Sendra, to inquire about the allegations. Sendra ultimately advised him to let the election play out and see what happens, explaining that unless the election was manipulated, there was nothing to be done.

On August 13, 2025, the fifth seat previously held by Winheim was up for a vote. No other applicants were present to be considered for the fifth seat of the EPPB. During the deliberation, Sergeant Horst and Officer Fiedler were silent and did not contribute, which Birkhofer found very strange. Winheim was ultimately elected and reinstated to the EPPB.

After the meeting, Birkhofer approached Sergeant Horst to address his fiduciary responsibility to the board and his lack of involvement in the deliberation process. In response, Sergeant Horst stated that he had been informed he could be assigned to night shift for the remainder of his career if he did not vote against Winheim. Birkhofer decided not to continue the conversation with Sergeant Horst, as he had heard similar allegations from Captain Toler.

Birkhofer characterized his interactions with Chief Capri as professional. He noted that he had heard rumors of Chief Capri making threats in the past, but he had never witnessed such behavior himself.

The following will be maintained in the Related Items section of the case file:

INV-9 – A copy of the audio recording of the interview conducted with Birkhofer.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

On October 13, 2025, City of Eustis Police Pension Board of Trustees member Gary Winheim made allegations to the Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) against Eustis Police Department (EPD) Chief of Police Craig Capri for official misconduct and abuse of power. Winheim alleged that Chief Capri abused his position as chief when he threatened and/or coerced members of his police department, who serve as Police Pension Board members, to vote against Winheim's reappointment to the board. The allegations were forwarded to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's (FDLE) Office of Executive Investigations (OEI) Public Corruption Unit (PCU) for follow-up.

This investigative report documents that FDLE OEI PCU Inspector Jackson Athaide reached out to Eustis Police Pension Board member Diane Thomas and Board Attorney Sean Sendra, both of whom chose not to make a statement.

On November 17, 2025, Inspector Jackson Athaide contacted EPPB civilian member Diane Thomas. Inspector Athaide asked if Thomas was aware of the allegations against Chief Capri concerning interference in the EPPB election process. Thomas replied that she had not heard of any allegations of election interference against Chief Capri or any board members reporting it. She indicated that she had no information pertinent to the investigation and did not wish to provide a formal statement.

Inspector Jackson Athaide additionally contacted EPPB Board Attorney Sean Sendra regarding the allegations against Chief Capri. Sendra stated that he was not involved in the allegations and had no information to provide. He also mentioned that he preferred not to give a formal statement due to his role as legal counsel for the EPPB.

Case Number: EI-14-0224	Serial #: 8
Author: Athaide-4628	Office: Executive Investigations
Activity Start Date: 11/17/2025	Activity End Date:11/17/2025
Approved By: Cope-3157	

Description:Declined Statement - Sean Sendra and Diane Thomas

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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

On October 13, 2025, City of Eustis Police Pension Board of Trustees member Gary Winheim made allegations to the Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) against Eustis Police Department (EPD) Chief of Police Craig Capri for official misconduct and abuse of power. Winheim alleged that Chief Capri abused his position as chief when he threatened and/or coerced members of his police department, who serve as Police Pension Board members, to vote against Winheim's reappointment to the board. The allegations were forwarded to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's (FDLE) Office of Executive Investigations (OEI) Public Corruption Unit (PCU) for follow-up.

This investigative report outlines the interview and statement collection from EPD Chief Craig Capri.

On November 17, 2025, FDLE OEI PCU Inspectors Jackson Athaide and Daniel Barbara conducted a voluntary, sworn, and recorded interview with Chief Capri regarding allegations of misconduct against him. The inspectors visited the EPD, located at 51 East Norton Avenue, Eustis, Florida 32726, to speak with Chief Capri. Chief Capri elected to have Attorney Laura Hargrove of Gause & Hargrove PLLC present as his legal representative.

Below is a brief summary of Chief Capri's statement. This summary is not a verbatim transcript of the interview, and the complete recording is attached as a Related Item to this report:

Inspector Athaide informed Chief Capri that the inspectors were present due to allegations concerning the Eustis Police Pension Board (EPPB) election process. Inspector Athaide explained that Winheim reported that Chief Capri allegedly threatened and coerced Sergeant Christopher Horst and Officer Christopher Fiedler to vote against Winheim's appointment to the EPPB.

Inspector Athaide asked if Chief Capri had ever made any statements to Sergeant Horst or Officer Fiedler regarding how they should vote on the pension board seat previously held by Gary Winheim. Chief Capri stated that he had never instructed them on how to vote.

Inspector Athaide referred to a conversation that occurred in July between Chief Capri, Captain Jonathan Fahning, and Sergeant Horst. The conversation concerned a disagreement between Sergeant Horst and Captain Kenneth Toler about how paperwork should be completed. Chief

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Author: Athaide-4628	Office: Executive Investigations
Activity Start Date: 11/17/2025	Activity End Date:11/17/2025
Approved By: Cope-3157	

Description: Interview - Chief of Police Craig Capri

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Capri mentioned that there were some disagreements because Sergeant Horst was complaining about Captain Toler. He stated that he called Sergeant Horst in to tell him to stop "running his mouth about the captain."

Attorney Hargrove inquired if the inspectors were asking if Chief Capri recalled a specific conversation with Sergeant Horst and Captain Fahning. Chief Capri responded that he did not recall a specific conversation, but he remembered a situation where Captain Toler was upset because Sergeant Horst was "bashing all the captains." Chief Capri indicated that he told Sergeant Horst to "cut it out" and noted that he had to address that issue with Sergeant Horst approximately every six months. Chief Capri stated that Sergeant Horst regularly complained about various issues, including finances.

Inspector Athaide informed Chief Capri that Sergeant Horst stated that during a conversation involving Chief Capri, Captain Fahning, and himself, the pension board election was mentioned. Based on that conversation, Sergeant Horst believed that his job security with the Eustis Police Department was contingent upon how he voted for the pension board members. Chief Capri denied this claim, saying, "it's not true." Inspector Athaide explained that Sergeant Horst felt Chief Capri suggested he could be fired if he did not vote against Winheim for the fifth seat on the EPPB. Chief Capri reiterated that this assertion was false and mentioned that Sergeant Horst had come to him regarding Winheim, to which Chief Capri reportedly replied that he did not care how Sergeant Horst voted.

Inspector Athaide inquired if Chief Capri ever told Sergeant Horst that he could be with EPD for either four days or four months depending on how he voted on the pension board. Chief Capri stated that he had not made any such comments regarding the pension board. He explained that he told Sergeant Horst he was always disgruntled and that he could either stay or go. Chief Capri allegedly told Sergeant Horst, "we are doing things differently here and you could stay for five days or five years." Chief Capri mentioned that Sergeant Horst expressed a desire to stay and subsequently said he appreciated Chief Capri for securing pay raises for them. Chief Capri advised him to stop complaining about the captains to subordinates.

Chief Capri further clarified that when he made the comment about five days or five years, it pertained to Sergeant Horst's performance at the police department and not to how he voted on the EPPB election.

Inspector Athaide asked Chief Capri if he had promised Officer Fiedler a position as a school resource officer if he voted against Winheim for the EPPB. Chief Capri replied, "no, absolutely not."

Chief Capri shared his perspective on the management of the Eustis Police Pension. He noted that the City of Eustis funded the Police Pension at a rate of 48%, which he believed was not sustainable. Chief Capri referenced his time as an officer with the Daytona Beach Police Department (DBPD), stating that DBPD had one officer on the pension board along with financial specialists. He questioned, "why do we have four cops on the pension board and one financial person?" Chief Capri believed that this arrangement did not make sense and felt that the board membership should include fewer police officers and more financial specialists. He believed that this change could reduce the funding percentage and make more funds available for potential future raises for officers.

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Inspector Athaide inquired about Winheim and his relationship with Chief Capri. Chief Capri stated that he had nothing against Winheim, but that Winheim disliked him. He mentioned that when he was appointed as the EPD Chief of Police, the city manager informed him about Winheim and advised him not to make Winheim his "number 2." Chief Capri noted that he and Winheim collaborated for three months before Winheim took leave due to PTSD related to an officer-involved shooting. Because of this leave, Chief Capri reportedly had to take Winheim's firearm and police badge. Chief Capri believed that Winheim felt his identity had been taken away by him, which contributed to Winheim's negative feelings toward Chief Capri.

During the interview, Chief Capri shared his belief that the EPPB should have a reduced number of police officers and focus more on financial specialists. He suggested that increasing the number of financial specialists while decreasing police officers would help lessen the city's commitments to the police pension fund and free up resources for other parts of the police department. Chief Capri mentioned that he was open about his views and had conversations about them with other members of the police department.

At the conclusion of the interview, Chief Capri was given the opportunity to make any further statement regarding the allegation. Chief Capri declined.

The following will be maintained in the Related Items section of the case file:

INV-10 – A copy of the audio recording of the interview conducted with Chief Capri.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

On October 13, 2025, City of Eustis Police Pension Board of Trustees member Gary Winheim made allegations to the Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) against Eustis Police Department (EPD) Chief of Police Craig Capri for official misconduct and abuse of power. Winheim alleged that Chief Capri abused his position as chief when he threatened and/or coerced members of his police department, who serve as Police Pension Board members, to vote against Winheim's reappointment to the board. The allegations were forwarded to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's (FDLE) Office of Executive Investigations (OEI) Public Corruption Unit (PCU) for follow-up.

This investigative report details the investigation into the Affidavit of Separation (CJSTC 61) submitted by the EPD regarding the termination of Wilson Santos.

On October 28, 2025, FDLE OEI PCU Inspectors Jackson Athaide and Daniel Barbara conducted a voluntary, sworn, and recorded interview with Gary and [REDACTED] regarding the complaint against Eustis Chief of Police Craig Capri. During the interview, Mrs. [REDACTED] stated that she submitted a public records request to the city of Eustis for various documents. She received a copy of the FDLE Affidavit of Separation (CJSTC 61) from the EPD concerning the termination of Wilson Santos.

Mrs. [REDACTED] provided the inspectors with a copy of CJSTC form 61, which was completed and signed by Agency Administrator Elena Pasek. The signature was dated March 6, 2023, and was reportedly witnessed and notarized by Notary Public Megan Hunsicker. Mrs. [REDACTED] noted that the notary stamp included the name Megan Hunsicker (Commission # HH426404) and an expiration date of November 26, 2027.

According to Florida State Statute (F.S.S.) 117.01(1), in Florida, a notary commission and related stamp are valid for four years. Based on the expiration date of November 26, 2027, the notary stamp could not have been valid at any time before November 27, 2023. The CJSTC form 61 indicated that the form was signed and notarized on March 6, 2023, which would be outside the period during which the stamp would be valid.

On November 6, 2025, Inspector Barbara contacted Director Sean Toner of the Florida Department of State, Division of Corporations. Inspector Barbara requested to make a public records request for all paperwork associated with Hunsicker's 2023 commission term and her

Case Number: EI-14-0224	Serial #: 10
Author: Athaide-4628	Office: Executive Investigations
Activity Start Date: 10/28/2025	Activity End Date:11/06/2025
Approved By: Cope-3157	

Description: Inquiry into the FDLE CJSTC 61 form

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previous term. Director Toner provided Inspector Barbara with the requested documents, which were subsequently forwarded to Inspector Athaide for review.

The records included two Notary Public Commission Applications that were filled out by Hunsicker. Both forms were complete and contained accurate information reflecting Hunsicker and her employment with the EPD. The first Notary Public Commission was granted and had a term from November 27, 2019, through November 26, 2023 (Notary ID 1597154). The second notary commission was granted and had a term from November 27, 2023, through November 26, 2027 (Notary ID 1597154). Director Toner also provided a letter explaining that the renewal commission was processed on July 27, 2023. The renewal commission can be processed up to six months before the previous commission's expiration date; however, the renewed commission cannot be used until the new term begins.

Furthermore, Inspector Athaide reviewed F.S.S. 117.01(5)(b), which is within the chapter pertaining to Florida Notary Public. The statute mandates that notary stamps that are resigned or expired must be destroyed to prevent fraud. If someone uses a Florida notary stamp outside the term of the commission, it could be in violation of Florida Statute.

According to the information provided, the notary stamp used on the CJSTC form 61 was processed on July 27, 2023, and issued on November 27, 2023. This indicates that the notary stamp could not have been in Hunsicker's possession on March 6, 2023. The information indicated that the dates on the form might be incorrect or that the form was filled out at a later time. It is important to highlight that notary stamps must be destroyed upon the resignation or expiration of the commission. If Hunsicker did not possess the notary stamp that was valid on March 6, 2023, but instead had the stamp issued on November 27, 2023, it could indicate that the form was completed after the deadline for destroying the stamp associated with the expired commission.

The following will be kept in the Related Items section of the case file:

INV-11 – copies of Hunsicker Notary Commission documents from Florida Department of State.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

On October 13, 2025, City of Eustis Police Pension Board of Trustees member Gary Winheim made allegations to the Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) against Eustis Police Department (EPD) Chief of Police Craig Capri for official misconduct and abuse of power. Winheim alleged that Chief Capri abused his position as chief when he threatened and/or coerced members of his police department, who serve as Police Pension Board members, to vote against Winheim's reappointment to the board. The allegations were forwarded to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's (FDLE) Office of Executive Investigations (OEI) Public Corruption Unit (PCU) for follow-up.

This investigative report outlines the Public Records Request for documentation concerning the separation of Wilson Santos and the associated CJSTC Form 61.

On November 18, 2025, FDLE OEI PCU Inspector Jackson Athaide submitted a public records request to the City of Eustis. The standard procedure for submitting a public records request through the City of Eustis website involved sending an email to cityclerk@eustis.org. Inspector Athaide requested the following information:

- All copies of the Affidavit of Separation (CJSTC 61) for former Eustis Police Department Officer Wilson Santos.
- The complete personnel file for former Eustis Police Department Officer Wilson Santos.

On November 24, 2025, Inspector Athaide was informed by EPD Records Manager Janel Fair that the records were ready for pickup. Inspector Athaide requested both a digital and a physical copy of the records. On November 25, 2025, Inspector Athaide visited the EPD and collected the requested records.

Inspector Athaide reviewed the flash drive provided by the EPD and discovered it contained 25 files. The first file was labeled "CJSTC 61 Santos," and the second file was labeled "CJSTC 61 signed." A summary of the information contained within the files is as follows:

The first file contained within the public records production was labelled "CJSTC 61 Santos." The document was a copy of the CJSTC 61 form provided to inspectors by [REDACTED]. It was labeled as the FDLE Affidavit of Separation (CJSTC 61). The form was filled out by hand

Case Number: EI-14-0224	Serial #: 11
Author: Athaide-4628	Office: Executive Investigations
Activity Start Date: 11/12/2025	Activity End Date:11/25/2025
Approved By: Cope-3157	

Description:Public Records Request - Wilson Santos

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and pertained to the separation of Wilson Santos from the EPD. The Agency ORI was recorded as 0350100, the employment start date was 8/10/2020, and the separation date was 3/3/2023. The reason for separation was noted as: "Voluntary separation or retirement in lieu of termination for violation of Section 943.13(4), F.S., or violation of moral character standards as defined in Rule 11B-27.0011, F.A.C." The form included a notice stating, "Section 943.139(2), F.S. requires the execution of an affidavit of Separation by the employing agency in a case of officer separation. WARNING: Intentional false execution of this affidavit of Separation constitutes a misdemeanor of the second degree." The agency administrator was identified and signed as Police Support Coordinator Elena Pasek, with the date noted as 3/6/2023. The form was notarized on 3/6/2023 by Megan Hunsicker. The notary stamp displayed Hunsicker's commission number as HH 426404 and an expiration date of 11/26/2027. At the bottom of the form, the commission-approved revisions were dated 8/12/2021, and the effective date of the form was listed as 6/2022.

It is important to note that Inspector Athaide carried out further inquiries regarding the Notary stamp used on this form. The notary was recorded as being signed and stamped on March 6, 2023, while the stamp would not have been issued until November 27, 2023. The application for the stamp was not finalized until July 27, 2023, and could not have been in Hunsicker's possession on March 6, 2023. For additional information concerning the Notary stamp application, please refer to Investigative Report 10.

The second file contained within the public records production was labelled, "CJSTC 61 signed." The document was a different FDLE affidavit of Separation (CJSTC 61) for Wilson Santos. The form was typed, excluding the signatures at the bottom, and referred to the separation of Wilson Santos from the EPD. The Agency ORI was listed as 0350100, with the employment date showing 8/10/2020 and the separation date as 2/08/2023. The reason for separation was noted as "Voluntary separation or retirement while being investigated for violation of Section 943.13(4), F.S., or violation of moral character standards defined in Rule 11B-27.0011, F.A.C." The form included a notice stating, "Section 943.139(2), F.S. requires the execution of an affidavit of Separation by the employing agency in cases of officer separation. WARNING: Intentional false execution of this affidavit of Separation constitutes a misdemeanor of the second degree." The agency administrator was listed and signed as Chief of Police Craig A Capri on 4/11/2023. The form was notarized on 4/11/2023 by Alex Thomas. The notary stamp included Thomas's commission number as HH 356542 and an expiration date of 1/31/2027. At the bottom of the form, the commission approved revisions were dated 8/13/2020, and the effective date of the form was listed as 5/2021.

Inspector Athaide compared the information on the two forms, as they appeared to be identical but contained different information related to the same incident. Inspector Athaide noted several differences between the forms, which are detailed below:

- First difference: Inspector Athaide noticed the date of separation was different. On "CJSTC 61 Santos", Santos' separation date was 3/3/2023 and on "CJSTC 61 signed" the separation date was 02/08/2023.
- Second difference: Inspector Athaide noticed the box checked in subsection 7 listed Separation Reasons was different. On "CJSTC 61 Santos", under subsection 7 had the box checked which read, "Voluntary separation or retirement in lieu of termination for violation of

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Section 943.13(4), F.S., or violation of moral character standards as defined in Rule 11B-27.0011, F.A.C.” While on “CJSTC 61 signed” had a separate box checked which read, “Voluntary separation or retirement while being investigated for violation of Section 943.13(4), F.S., or violation of moral character standards defined in Rule 11B-27.0011, F.A.C.”

- Third difference: Inspector Athaide noticed the Agency Administrator and date the form was signed was different. On “CJSTC 61 Santos” the agency administrator was listed and signed as Police Support Coordinator Elena Pasek and was dated 3/6/2023. On “CJSTC 61 signed” the agency administrator was listed Chief of Police Craig Capri and was dated 4/11/2023.

- Fourth Difference: Inspector Athaide noticed the notary information and stamp was different. On “CJSTC 61 Santos” the form was notarized on 3/6/2023 by Megan Hunsicker. The notary stamp bore Hunsicker’s commission number as HH 426404 and an expiration date of 11/26/2027. While on “CJSTC 61 signed” the form was notarized on 4/11/2023 by Alex Thomas. The notary stamp bore Thomas’s commission number as HH 356542 and an expiration date of 1/31/2027.

- Fifth Difference: Inspector Athaide noticed the Commission-Approved Revision date and form effective dates were different. On “CJSTC 61 Santos” the Commission-Approved Revision date was 8/12/2021 and the Form Effective Date was 6/2022. The dates suggested a newer version of the form. While on “CJSTC 61 signed” the Commission-Approved Revision date was 8/13/2020 and the Form Effective Date was 5/2021. The dates suggested an older version of the form.

The third file included in the public records production was labeled “CJSTC 78 signed.” The document was an FDLE Internal Investigation Report (CJSTC 78) form concerning the internal investigation into former Officer Wilson Santos. The EPD was identified as the agency, with Captain Kenneth Toler listed as the contact person. The allegation was described as the following: “ Ofc, Santos was charged with perjury and official misconduct by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. He completed an arrest affidavit with inaccurate information and wrote a citation to a subject which did not meet statute. Ofc. Santos violated department policies to include conduct unbecoming, incompetent performance and falsification of report.” The agency’s disposition was recorded as sustained, with the internal investigation completed on March 27, 2023. The criminal charges included Perjury under F.S.S. 837.012 and Official Misconduct under F.S.S. 838.022. The agency’s disciplinary action was that the officer resigned. The form was signed by Chief Capri and dated April 11, 2023.

The fourth item included in the public records request production was a Word document titled “Conclusion Letter.” Dated July 10, 2023, the letter informed Santos that the internal investigation had been completed and that he could request a copy of the letter at the EPD.

The fifth item found in the public records request production was a PDF document titled “Final Action Summary OPS 005 Santos.” This document served as the final action summary for the EPD Internal Investigation report IA 2022-05. The assigned investigator was Captain Toler. The final action related to the investigation occurred on March 27, 2023. The report documented the following sustained findings: Incompetent Performance G.O. 3-1, 1.8.2.2, Conduct Unbecoming G.O. 3-1, 1.10, and Falsification of Report G.O. 3-1, 1.38.4. The discipline was stated as, “1.

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Subject resigned prior to conclusion of investigation,” and “2. Referral to the Florida Criminal Justice and Standards Training Commission for review of the officer's certification.”

The sixth and seventh items included in the public records request production were copies of emails that recorded Santos's absences from traffic court.

The eighth and ninth items found in the public records request production were personal notes. These notes seem to have been taken during the internal affairs investigation. They were neither signed nor dated.

The tenth item found in the public records request production was a copy of the notice of internal affairs investigation that was provided to Santos when the Internal Affairs case was initiated. This form was dated 12/19/2022 and was signed by Santos.

The eleventh item found in the public records request production was the Professional Standards Investigative Report Narrative. A summary of the allegations and findings is as follows:

On December 13, 2023, Assistant State Attorney Walter Forgie from the Office of the State Attorney in the Fifth Judicial Circuit in Lake County made allegations against Santos. These allegations were submitted to Chief Capri, and on December 19, 2023, Captain Toler was instructed to conduct an internal investigation into the matter.

The allegations pertained to a traffic stop conducted by Santos on October 10, 2023, during which he made an arrest for possession of methamphetamines, MDMA, and drug paraphernalia. Santos was subsequently charged by FDLE Special Agent Steve Brenton with perjury (F.S.S. 838.0221) and official misconduct (F.S.S. 837.012). Captain Toler also reported evidence of violations of EPD Department Policy. Captain Toler alleged that Santos violated G.O. 3-1, section 1.10, Conduct Unbecoming; G.O. 3-1, section 1.8.2, incompetent performance; and G.O. 3-1, section 1.38.4, falsification of a report. The report was completed and signed by Captain Toler on April 11, 2023.

The twelfth item found in the public records request production was titled “OPS 006 signed.” The document was a notice of intent to discipline related to the internal investigation into Wilson Santos. The form was signed by Chief Capri or his designee. The recommended discipline stated, “Subject resigned prior to the conclusion of the investigation. Referral to the Florida Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission for review of the officer's certification.” The file included the internal investigation summary and findings. The form was dated March 27, 2023, and there was no date written next to the signature at the bottom of the form.

The thirteenth item found in the public records request production was titled “Order to Initiate.” The document was a letter from Chief Capri on December 19, 2022, directing Captain Toler to initiate an internal investigation into Santos.

Items fourteen to twenty-two were training documents from Santos' employment as a police officer.

The twenty-third item in the public records request production was titled “Unpaid Suspension

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Notice.” The document was a letter from Chief Capri to Santos regarding his placement on unpaid suspension. Santos was placed on paid administrative leave on December 19, 2022, and transitioned to unpaid administrative leave on February 8, 2023, until further notice.

The twenty-fourth item in the public records request production was titled “W. Santos Personnel File.” This file was a 107-page document submitted to the State of Florida Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission. The form documented Santos’s voluntary relinquishment of his Criminal Justice Certification to the Commission on October 18, 2024. Following this, the packet included paperwork related to Santos’s status changes during his employment with the EPD. The forms detailed circumstances such as Santos being placed on administrative leave, receiving pay increases, and the conclusion of his trial period. Additionally, the file contained a copy of Santos’s resignation letter, dated March 8, 2023, along with his complete new hire packet and training folder.

The twenty-fifth item in the public records request production was titled “Wilson Resignation.” The letter was from Santos, located at [REDACTED], dated March 8, 2023. The letter was addressed to Chief Capri of the EPD, and it stated that Santos was resigning effective March 8, 2023.

Inspector Athaide reviewed the dates from all related forms and determined that the separation dates on both CJSTC 61 forms appear to be incorrect. According to EPD records, Wilson was placed on unpaid administrative leave on February 8, 2023, but was still an employee of EPD. Both Wilson’s resignation letter and personnel file indicate that Wilson’s resignation date was March 8, 2023. The notice of intent to discipline was dated March 27, 2023. The CJSTC 78 form documented that Wilson resigned during the investigation, which was signed on March 27, 2023, and completed on April 11, 2023. The summary of the internal investigation was finalized on April 11, 2023. Finally, the internal investigation conclusion letter was dated July 10, 2023.

Based on the information above, the separation date of March 3, 2023, did not appear on any of the forms, and it is unclear why that date was included on the CJSTC 61 form provided to Mrs. [REDACTED]. The separation date of February 8, 2023, as indicated on the CJSTC 61 form obtained through a public records request by Inspector Athaide, marks the date when Wilson was placed on unpaid administrative leave, rather than the date he officially separated from the agency.

Additionally, the CJSTC 61 form given to Mrs. [REDACTED] had a certification date of March 6, 2023. Inspector Athaide did not find any other forms related to Santos that were signed on or around that date. However, the other CJSTC 61 form found in the public records production had a certification date of April 11, 2023. Two other forms were found in the production were signed on April 11, 2023, which include the CJSTC form 78 and Captain Toler’s Summary of Findings.

Lastly, the CJSTC 61 form provided to Mrs. [REDACTED] indicated that Santos resigned in lieu of termination, while the form obtained through public records request suggested he resigned during the investigation. All other forms contained in Santos’ case file documented his resignation while under investigation, not in lieu of termination.

It remained unclear based on EPD records why two CJSTC 61 forms were created to document Santos’ separation. The CJSTC 61 form provided to Mrs. [REDACTED] contained materially

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incorrect information, such as the circumstances of Santos' separation, the separation date, and the notary stamp being dated outside the commission authorization date. The CJSTC 61 form found in the public records request contained mostly accurate information and a valid notary stamp, with the only incorrect detail being the separation date, which showed February 8, 2023, instead of March 8, 2023.

The following will be kept in the Related Items section of the case file:

INV-12 – Copies of the entire public records request production from the EPD.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

On October 13, 2025, City of Eustis Police Pension Board of Trustees member Gary Winheim made allegations to the Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) against Eustis Police Department (EPD) Chief of Police Craig Capri for official misconduct and abuse of power. Winheim alleged that Chief Capri abused his position as chief when he threatened and/or coerced members of his police department, who serve as Police Pension Board members, to vote against Winheim's reappointment to the board. The allegations were forwarded to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's (FDLE) Office of Executive Investigations (OEI) Public Corruption Unit (PCU) for follow-up.

This investigative report outlines the inquiry into the official disciplinary file submitted to the FDLE's Criminal Justice Professionalism, Standards & Training, Professional Compliance (CJSTC) Section regarding former EPD Officer Wilson Santos.

It is important to note that F.S.S. 943.139(2) mandates that law enforcement agencies complete and maintain an affidavit of separation form (CJSTC-61) when a sworn officer leaves their agency. Florida statute requires that the form be completed under oath and serves as an official statement in accordance with F.S.S. 837.06. Law enforcement agencies may modify the separation file in the Automated Training Management System (ATMS), but it is the agency's responsibility to notify CJSTC of any changes. Furthermore, CJSTC is not required to retain copies of the records used to submit or update a case.

On November 19, 2025, Inspector Athaide reached out to Glen Hopkins, the Chief of Standards at FDLE's CJSTC, regarding Santos' resignation. Inspector Athaide requested copies of the complete disciplinary file submitted to FDLE upon Santos' resignation. On December 4, 2025, Inspector Athaide received Santos' disciplinary file from Erica Gaines, the Training and Research Manager at FDLE's CJSTC. Upon review, Inspector Athaide observed the following:

The document provided by Gaines was labeled "50241-CaseDocs." The first page was a processing face sheet dated October 18, 2024, for Santos. Following this was the final order from the CJSTC documenting Santos' voluntary surrender of his Criminal Justice Certification and related documents. Also included was a copy of Santos' plea agreement concerning the criminal charges against him by the Fifth Judicial Circuit Court in Lake County.

The FDLE Professional Compliance profile sheet included in the disciplinary file recorded

Case Number: EI-14-0224	Serial #: 12
Author: Athaide-4628	Office: Executive Investigations
Activity Start Date: 11/19/2025	Activity End Date:12/04/2025
Approved By: Cope-3157	

Description:Review of CJSTC Disciplinary File - Santos

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Santos' employment dates as starting on August 10, 2020, with a separation date of March 3, 2023. Notably, the separation date of March 3, 2023, matched the date listed on the Affidavit of Separation (CJSTC-61) form provided to [REDACTED] as part of her public records request to the EPD.

The file also included a copy of a different affidavit of separation (CJSTC-61) that documented Santos' separation from EPD. This form was different from the one provided to Mrs. [REDACTED]. The form in the CJSTC Disciplinary file was an exact copy of a CJSTC-61 form given to Inspector Athaide by EPD through the public records request. The CJSTC-61 form provided to Inspector Athaide indicated a separation date of February 8, 2023. This separation date differed from the date on the Professional Compliance Profile Sheet of March 3, 2023. Additionally, the CJSTC-61 form given to Mrs. [REDACTED] was not included in the CJSTC Disciplinary file, and it was unclear why the profile sheet reflected a separation date of March 3, 2023.

The disciplinary file also included a copy of the Internal Investigation Report (CJSTC-78) related to EPD's internal investigation of Santos. The CJSTC-78 form was identical to the form given to Inspector Athaide in response to the public records request.

The disciplinary file also contained a copy of the FDLE Case Summary for case number OR-14-0207, generated by Special Agent Stephen Brenton, along with court paperwork from Santos' criminal prosecution. On February 8, 2023, information was filed by Assistant State Attorney Cherish Adams in the Fifth Judicial Circuit Court in Lake County. The following day, February 9, 2023, Santos turned himself in and was arrested at the Lake County Jail. There was no indication of Santos being either terminated or resigning in February 2023.

The disciplinary file also included a copy of the processing sheet for the ATMS case generated for Wilson Santos. This case was received on February 9, 2023, and opened on February 28, 2023.

The disciplinary file also contained a copy of the Internal Investigations report completed by Captain Toler. The narrative of this report documented that on February 8, 2023, Chief Capri, Captain Jonathan Fahning, and Captain Kenneth Toler met with Santos and placed him on unpaid administrative leave. Santos was arrested on February 9, 2023, and resigned on March 8, 2023.

The disciplinary file included various documents from the internal investigation and Santos' training records, all of which were provided to Inspector Athaide in response to the public records request. For additional information regarding the Internal Investigations documents and training records, please refer to Investigative Report 10 from this case file.

In summary, Florida Statute requires Law Enforcement Agencies to notify CJSTC of any separation of a sworn law enforcement officer. Florida statute requires the agency to complete the Affidavit of Separation (CJSTC-61) form under oath and maintain it. The CJSTC-61 form found in the documents submitted to CJSTC regarding Santos was the CJSTC-61 form with the separation date of February 8, 2023. This was the same form obtained by Inspector Athaide from the EPD pursuant to a public records request. Based on the form being maintained by EPD records and CJSTC's original disciplinary file, it is likely to have been the original CJSTC-61 form related to Santos' separation from employment.

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The following will be kept in the Related Items section of the case file:

INV-13 – Copies of the entire records production from FDLE's CJSTC.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

On October 13, 2025, City of Eustis Police Pension Board of Trustees member Gary Winheim made allegations to the Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) against Eustis Police Department (EPD) Chief of Police Craig Capri for official misconduct and abuse of power. Winheim alleged that Chief Capri abused his position as chief when he threatened and/or coerced members of his police department, who serve as Police Pension Board members, to vote against Winheim's reappointment to the board. The allegations were forwarded to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's (FDLE) Office of Executive Investigations (OEI) Public Corruption Unit (PCU) for follow-up.

This investigative report outlines OEI PCU Inspector Jackson Athaide's efforts to interview former EPD Officer Wilson Santos.

On November 18, 2025, Inspector Athaide conducted research to find contact information for Wilson Santos. He identified the phone numbers [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] as associated with Santos. On the same date, Inspector Athaide called and left messages for Santos to return the call, but Santos did not respond.

On November 25, 2025, Inspector Athaide and Inspector James Franquiz went to Santos' residence at [REDACTED]. The inspectors attempted to contact Santos, but no one answered the door.

On December 11, 2025, Inspector Athaide and Inspector Daniel Barbara visited Santos' residence again and tried to make contact, but no one answered the door.

Case Number: EI-14-0224	Serial #: 13
Author: Athaide-4628	Office: Executive Investigations
Activity Start Date: 11/18/2025	Activity End Date:12/11/2025
Approved By: Cope-3157	

Description: Attempted Interview - Wilson Santos

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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

On October 13, 2025, City of Eustis Police Pension Board of Trustees member Gary Winheim made allegations to the Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) against Eustis Police Department (EPD) Chief of Police Craig Capri for official misconduct and abuse of power. Winheim alleged that Chief Capri abused his position as chief when he threatened and/or coerced members of his police department, who serve as Police Pension Board members, to vote against Winheim's reappointment to the board. The allegations were forwarded to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's (FDLE) Office of Executive Investigations (OEI) Public Corruption Unit (PCU) for follow-up.

This investigative report outlines the interview and statement collection from EPD Senior Staff Assistant Megan Hunsicker.

On November 13, 2025, FDLE OEI PCU Inspectors Jackson Athaide and Daniel Barbara conducted a voluntary, sworn, and recorded interview with Hunsicker concerning the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission (CJSTC) form 61 related to former Officer Wilson Santos. The inspectors met Hunsicker at Eustis City Hall, located at 10 North Grove Street #3, Eustis, Florida 32726.

Below is a brief summary of Hunsicker's statement. This summary is not a verbatim transcript of the interview, and the complete recording is attached as a Related Item to this report:

At the beginning of the interview, Hunsicker was informed that inspectors had come across a notarized CJSTC-61 form related to Wilson Santos's separation from the EPD. Hunsicker was asked if she had any idea why the form might be concerning to the inspectors. Hunsicker acknowledged this and mentioned that the EPD had received a public records request for the document. She stated that she and her supervisor, Elena Pasek, retrieved the file and determined that the original form filled out by Pasek appeared "like crap." Pasek informed Hunsicker that she intended to redo the form and asked if Hunsicker could re-notarize it. Hunsicker agreed to re-notarize the form and used her stamp without thinking much of it. She mentioned that she had already submitted her sworn statement to the Florida Notary Section at the Florida Department of State, claiming that she believed she was acting correctly by redrafting the form and had not considered the dates. Hunsicker remarked, "not that I would have gone and used... you know... I don't have my old stamp."

Case Number: EI-14-0224	Serial #: 14
Author: Athaide-4628	Office: Executive Investigations
Activity Start Date: 11/13/2025	Activity End Date:11/13/2025
Approved By: Cope-3157	

Description: Interview - Megan Hunsicker

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Hunsicker was asked to provide further details regarding her statement to the Department of State. She stated that [REDACTED] had submitted a complaint to the Department of State concerning the dates on the form and the dates on the notary stamp. Hunsicker received notification and submitted a statement to the Department of State, claiming she had never received any information following her submission.

Hunsicker then stated that the CJSTC-61 form concerning Wilson Santos was completed on the date indicated on the form given to [REDACTED]. She mentioned that the form was entered into CJSTC's Automated Training Management System (ATMS) with the correct information included. Hunsicker noted that it was completed in a timely manner and that Pasek wanted it to be redone before including it in the results of the public records request because she was unhappy with its appearance.

Inspector Barbara inquired if anything similar had happened before, to which Hunsicker replied, "No." She reiterated that the form was redone because Pasek disliked its appearance and that no one had asked her to recreate the form.

Hunsicker was asked when the form was recreated. She explained that on the day they received the public records request, Pasek was reviewing all the records to ensure they were complete. During this review, they found the CJSTC-61 form, and Pasek commented that "the name looked horrible; you can't even really read it." Hunsicker stated that Pasek planned to redo the form due to its illegibility, and Hunsicker agreed without considering it a significant issue.

When asked if anyone had the original form, Hunsicker responded that Pasek should have it, as she manages all the FDLE paperwork for the agency. When asked again if the original form should exist, Hunsicker said she did not know because Pasek keeps all FDLE paperwork secured.

Hunsicker was also asked if she had heard of any member of the police department, including the Chief of Police, using their official position to influence anyone else at the EPD. Hunsicker stated she was not aware of any such occurrences at the EPD.

The following will be maintained in the Related Items section of the case file:

INV-14 – A copy of the audio recording of the interview conducted with Megan Hunsicker.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

On October 13, 2025, City of Eustis Police Pension Board of Trustees member Gary Winheim made allegations to the Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) against Eustis Police Department (EPD) Chief of Police Craig Capri for official misconduct and abuse of power. Winheim alleged that Chief Capri abused his position as chief when he threatened and/or coerced members of his police department, who serve as Police Pension Board members, to vote against Winheim's reappointment to the board. The allegations were forwarded to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's (FDLE) Office of Executive Investigations (OEI) Public Corruption Unit (PCU) for follow-up.

This investigative report details the interview and statement collection from EPD Accreditation Manager Elena Pasek.

On November 17, 2025, FDLE OEI PCU Inspectors Jackson Athaide and Daniel Barbara conducted a voluntary, sworn, and recorded interview with Pasek regarding the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission (CJSTC) form 61 related to former Officer Wilson Santos. The inspectors visited the EPD at 51 East Norton Avenue, Eustis, Florida 32726, to speak with Pasek, who chose to have Attorney Laura Hargrove of Gause & Hargrove PLLC present as her legal representative.

Below is a brief summary of Pasek's statement. This summary is not a verbatim transcript of the interview, and the complete recording is attached as a Related Item to this report:

At the start of the interview, Pasek was shown a CJSTC-61 form related to the separation of Wilson Santos, which had been given to the inspectors by [REDACTED]. Pasek recognized the form. Inspector Barbara explained that the concern was with the notarization of the form, which was represented as being notarized on March 6, 2023. Pasek was informed that the notary stamp did not exist on the date indicated on the form.

It is important to note that the form had a notary stamp with an expiration date of November 26, 2027. Since State of Florida Notary commissions are granted for four-year terms, this means the notary stamp would not have been valid until November 27, 2023.

Inspector Barbara explained that the inspectors received an explanation for the discrepancy

Case Number: EI-14-0224	Serial #: 15
Author: Athaide-4628	Office: Executive Investigations
Activity Start Date: 11/17/2025	Activity End Date: 11/17/2025
Approved By: Cope-3157	

Description: Interview - Elena Pasek

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which he described as the following: the original CJSTC-61 form related to Wilson Santos was messy and was recreated upon request in a public records request. Pasek confirmed that when the form was recreated, she verified it contained all the same information verbatim from the original form before providing it in the public records production. Pasek requested Senior Staff Assistant Megan Hunsicker notarize the form because the original form was notarized. Pasek acknowledged that Inspector Barbara's description of the circumstances was accurate but could not recall the exact date the form was recreated.

When asked if Hunsicker questioned the recreation of the CJSTC-61 form, Pasek stated that she did not. She was then asked if she was Hunsicker's supervisor, to which she replied, "to a point, yes."

Pasek was asked whether the original form still existed, and she stated that she had shredded it. When asked if the original form was submitted to FDLE as part of documenting the separation of Wilson Santos, Pasek replied, "no sir." In response to a question about what happened to the form, she said it was placed in the employee file at the EPD.

Next, Pasek was asked if she knew the purpose of the CJSTC-61 form aside from it being in the employee file. At this point, Hargrove interjected, asking Pasek if FDLE is notified when someone leaves the department. Pasek confirmed that they are. Hargrove then asked how she notified FDLE of the separation, and Pasek explained that she logs into CJSTC's Automated Training Management System (ATMS) and completes a separation in ATMS. Pasek confirmed that she followed this process for Santos' separation. Hargrove inquired if Pasek kept a paper copy of the form at the EPD and if it remains there, to which Pasek answered yes.

Hargrove then asked if the CJSTC-61 form in question was requested in the public records request. Pasek affirmed that it was. Hargrove asked if Pasek located the form and recreated it because it was messy but contained the exact same information on the new form. Pasek confirmed that as well.

Next, Hargrove asked if Hunsicker notarized the original form. Pasek replied yes. Hargrove then inquired if Hargrove notarized the original form as well as the new form. to which Pasek said yes. Hargrove asked if Pasek believed she was keeping all the records consistent across each form when she reproduced the record. Pasek affirmed this. Hargrove asked Pasek if she ever intended to commit any sort of fraud. Pasek answered no.

Inspector Barbara asked Pasek if she saw any issues with the recreation of the form and the use of the notary stamp at a later date. Hargrove intervened when Pasek did not respond immediately, saying, "I believe she sees an issue now that there are questions that could arise because of this...she thought she was doing the right thing at the time. But there was nothing nefarious about it."

Inspector Athaide asked Pasek if the original CJSTC-61 form existed anywhere and if it was scanned into Santos' personnel file. Pasek said no. Inspector Athaide then asked if the file would be scanned in at city hall; Pasek said, "eventually, but we keep them in-house." Hargrove interjected again, asking Pasek, "are you required to keep this?" Pasek responded, "I keep every paperwork."

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Inspector Athaide asked Pasek if she was familiar with how notaries operate. Pasek did not answer, and Hargrove asked, “are you a notary?” Pasek replied that she was not. Inspector Athaide then asked if she was aware that when a notary stamps a form, it indicates that the form was signed in their presence. Pasek responded affirmatively. Inspector Athaide further asked if she understood that when a notary stamp is used, it signifies that the signature and stamp were made and used on the date reflected on the form. Pasek did not respond, and Hargrove stated that was why she had it re-notarized like the original form.

The following will be maintained in the Related Items section of the case file:

INV-15 – A copy of the audio recording of the interview conducted with Elena Pasek.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

On October 13, 2025, City of Eustis Police Pension Board of Trustees member Gary Winheim made allegations to the Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) against Eustis Police Department (EPD) Chief of Police Craig Capri for official misconduct and abuse of power. Winheim alleged that Chief Capri abused his position as chief when he threatened and/or coerced members of his police department, who serve as Police Pension Board members, to vote against Winheim's reappointment to the board. The allegations were forwarded to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's (FDLE) Office of Executive Investigations (OEI) Public Corruption Unit (PCU) for follow-up.

This investigative report outlines the inquiry into the Executive Office of the Governor's (EOG) investigation into the complaint made against EPD Senior Staff Assistant Megan Hunsicker by [REDACTED].

On November 13, 2025, FDLE OEI PCU Inspectors Jackson Athaide and Daniel Barbara conducted a voluntary, sworn, and recorded interview with Hunsicker about the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission (CJSTC) form 61 related to former Officer Wilson Santos. The inspectors met Hunsicker at Eustis City Hall, located at 10 North Grove Street #3, Eustis, Florida 32726. During the interview, Hunsicker disclosed that Mrs. [REDACTED] had filed a complaint with the EOG against her concerning the stamp used on the CJSTC-61 form for Santos. Hunsicker explained that she and Elena Pasek recreated the form when Mrs. [REDACTED] submitted a public records request because it was not legible. Hunsicker stated that she provided a sworn statement to the EOG as requested during the investigation.

On December 12, 2025, Inspector Athaide contacted Mrs. [REDACTED] regarding her complaint to the EOG. Inspector Athaide also requested records from the EOG concerning their investigation of the matter. In response, [REDACTED] provided a timeline of events along with supporting documents, which are summarized as follows:

On June 11, 2025, Mrs. [REDACTED] made a public records request to the EPD for the Automated Training Management System (ATMS) status of officers who retired, resigned, or were terminated during EPD Chief Craig Capri's tenure. On June 18, 2025, Mrs. [REDACTED] updated the request to include CJSTC-61 forms due to the City's inability to provide ATMS status. On June 24, 2025, Mrs. [REDACTED] followed up again on the status of the records. On July 2, 2025, Mrs. [REDACTED] sent another follow-up email inquiring about the delay since no records had been

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Author: Athaide-4628	Office: Executive Investigations
Activity Start Date: 11/13/2025	Activity End Date:12/12/2025
Approved By: Cope-3157	

Description:Investigation by Executive Office of the Governor into Megan Hunsicker

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received.

On July 3, 2025, Mrs. [REDACTED] received the CJSTC-61 form related to Santos's separation. Upon review, she noticed that the notary stamp on the form bore Hunsicker's name and an expiration date of November 27, 2027. However, the notarization signature indicated that the form was certified on "March 6, 2023." Given that notary commissions in Florida last for four years, the stamp used on the form could not have been valid on the date the form was signed.

On July 11, 2025, Mrs. [REDACTED] filed a complaint with the EOG against Hunsicker for allegedly improperly certifying an official record. On July 24, 2025, Mrs. [REDACTED] was informed that the EOG had initiated an investigation into the allegations.

On December 12, 2025, Inspector Athaide received an email from Notary Coordinator Diedre Leaks of the EOG. Leaks provided Inspector Athaide with all records related to the Notary investigation conducted by her office.

The records included copies of the letters sent to Mrs. [REDACTED] and Hunsicker throughout the process. The production also contained a copy of Mrs. [REDACTED]'s complaint and Hunsicker's sworn statement in response to it. A summary of the investigation's findings are as follows:

On July 17, 2025, the EOG received Mrs. [REDACTED]'s complaint. The complaint included a narrative detailing the above allegations and the attached CJSTC-61 form for Santos. [REDACTED] also included other CJSTC-61 forms filled out by Hunsicker, which used the notary stamp in compliance.

The EOG subsequently sent a follow-up letter to Hunsicker regarding the complaint and requested that she complete a sworn statement addressing the concerns. Hunsicker submitted a sworn statement that was received by the EOG on September 22, 2025. The statement read:

"I am writing to clarify the notarized document involving Elena Pasek. The original document was duly notarized; however, due to readability concerns, the document had to be recreated. At that time, I believed I was acting appropriately by applying my notary stamp to the recreated version. I would also like to confirm that Elena Pasek was present during the notarization and is personally known to me."

On December 11, 2025, the EOG sent a letter to Mrs. [REDACTED] and Hunsicker regarding the conclusion of the investigation. Hunsicker was found in violation of state statute due to her improper use of the notary stamp. Given the absence of prior disciplinary actions against Hunsicker, the EOG offered her the option to undertake remedial action instead of proceeding with the suspension of her Notary Commission. Hunsicker was required to complete the Notary Education Program and submit proof of completion within twenty days.

Based on the above information, the EOG determined that Hunsicker had violated Florida State Statute regarding the misuse of her notary stamp. Hunsicker acknowledged the misuse of the stamp, stating it was due to the previous form being illegible, which aligned with her statement to the inspectors.

The following will be maintained in the Related Items section of the case file:

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INV-16 – A copy of all records obtained from Mrs. [REDACTED] regarding her complaint to EOG

INV-17 - A copy of all records obtained from the EOG regarding their investigation into the allegations against Hunsicker.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

On October 13, 2025, City of Eustis Police Pension Board of Trustees member Gary Winheim made allegations to the Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) against Eustis Police Department (EPD) Chief of Police Craig Capri for official misconduct and abuse of power. Winheim alleged that Chief Capri abused his position as chief when he threatened and/or coerced members of his police department, who serve as Police Pension Board members, to vote against Winheim's reappointment to the board. The allegations were forwarded to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's (FDLE) Office of Executive Investigations (OEI) Public Corruption Unit (PCU) for follow-up.

This investigative report details the second interview and statement collection from EPD Accreditation Manager Elena Pasek.

On January 9, 2026, FDLE OEI PCU Inspectors Jackson Athaide and Daniel Barbara conducted a voluntary, sworn, and recorded interview with Pasek concerning the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission (CJSTC) form 61 related to former Officer Wilson Santos. The inspectors visited the EPD at 51 East Norton Avenue, Eustis, Florida 32726, to speak with Pasek, who opted to have Attorney Laura Hargrove of Gause & Hargrove PLLC present as her legal representative.

Below is a brief summary of Pasek's statement. This summary is not a verbatim transcript of the interview, and the complete recording is attached as a Related Item to this report:

On January 6, 2026, Inspector Athaide provided Attorney Hargrove with a form in preparation for the interview with Pasek. The form was titled "CJSTC Form 61 – Santos.pdf." It was an Affidavit of Separation related to the departure of former Officer Wilson Santos from the EPD. The form was allegedly completed and signed by Chief Craig Capri on April 11, 2023. Unlike the handwritten form previously provided to [REDACTED] in response to her public records request, the form was typed. Additionally, it contained a different reason for separation (subsection 7F). Inspector Athaide obtained the form through his own public records request to the EPD and from FDLE's Automated Training Management System (ATMS).

For the purposes of this report, the handwritten CJSTC form 61 previously obtained by [REDACTED], which was signed by Elena Pasek, will be referred to as CJSTC-61 (1), and the typed form signed by Chief Capri will be referred to as CJSTC-61 (2).

Case Number: EI-14-0224	Serial #: 17
Author: Athaide-4628	Office: Executive Investigations
Activity Start Date: 01/06/2026	Activity End Date:01/09/2026
Approved By: Cope-3157	

Description: Interview - Elena Pasek - 2

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At the start of the interview, Pasek was asked a hypothetical question regarding her involvement in processing public records requests. Inspector Athaide inquired whether a public records request made to the EPD through Eustis City Hall would be handled by Eustis City Hall or the EPD. Pasek replied that if the request pertained to the police department, then the police department would manage the records request. If the request included records maintained by Pasek, she would provide copies to Janel Fair, who would then package the requested records for the requester.

Inspector Athaide asked Pasek if anyone other than her was responsible for completing and maintaining CJSTC forms like the CJSTC form 61 relevant to this investigation. Pasek did not respond immediately, prompting Hargrove to explain the following:

Pasek began her role at the EPD in a civil capacity in August 2022 and had to learn without formal training. She believed she was required to complete the CJSTC 61 forms when someone separated from the agency. When presented with CJSTC-61 (2) by Hargrove, Pasek stated she had never seen the form. She conducted her own investigation and discovered that former Captain David Carney also completed a CJSTC 61 form related to Wilson Santos's separation. Pasek suggested CJSTC-61 (2) was that form filled out by Carney. Pasek noted that CJSTC-61 (2) was sent directly to Eustis Human Resources, and neither Carney nor Pasek informed each other about the forms they filled out. Pasek retained the form she completed (CJASTC-61(1)) but was unaware of the other form reportedly filled out by Carney.

Pasek explained that the miscommunication regarding the forms led the EPD to establish a process to prevent multiple forms from being filled out again. She described the procedure for completing any CJSTC forms at the EPD that was created to ensure transparency between members of the EPD and City Hall.

Inspector Athaide asked Pasek if she was responsible for submitting disciplinary packets to ATMS when an officer separated from the agency. Pasek clarified that she was not solely responsible for submitting the documents, as Carney submitted the documents related to Wilson Santos's separation. She added that she did not recall ever sending disciplinary packets to ATMS herself.

Inspector Athaide then directed Pasek's attention to CJSTC-61 (1) and CJSTC-61 (2). CJSTC-61 (1) indicated that Santos's reason for separation was *"Voluntary separation or retirement in lieu of termination for violation of Section 943.13(4), F.S., or violation of moral character standards as defined in Rule 11B-27.0011, F.A.C."* In contrast, CJSTC-61 (2) stated that Santos's reason for separation was *"Voluntary separation or retirement while being investigated for violation of Section 943.13(4), F.S., or violation of moral character standards defined in Rule 11B-27.0011, F.A.C."* It should be noted that the EPD Internal Investigation report concerning former Officer Santos indicated that he resigned from the EPD while under investigation. Inspector Athaide asked Pasek if she knew why the reasons for separation differed in the two forms, even though they referred to the same incident. Pasek replied that she did not know why there was a discrepancy.

Inspector Athaide then directed Pasek's attention to the separation dates on CJSTC-61 (1) and CJSTC-61 (2). CJSTC-61 (1) recorded the separation date as March 3, 2023, while CJSTC-61

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(2) indicated it as February 8, 2023. Pasek was asked if she understood the reason for the differing dates. She proposed that February 8, 2023, was the date Santos was placed on administrative leave and that she noted March 3 on CJSTC-61 (1) because she was instructed to do so. Ultimately, Pasek expressed uncertainty about why the date on CJSTC-61 (2) differed from her form and mentioned that she only included the date on the form that she was told by an unidentified individual.

Pasek was again asked if she had ever mailed or electronically submitted a packet to ATMS regarding Wilson Santos's separation. She stated that she did not remember if she had sent anything to ATMS related to Santos' case.

The following will be maintained in the Related Items section of the case file:

INV-18 – A copy of the audio recording of the interview conducted with Elena Pasek.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

On October 13, 2025, City of Eustis Police Pension Board of Trustees member Gary Winheim made allegations to the Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) against Eustis Police Department (EPD) Chief of Police Craig Capri for official misconduct and abuse of power. Winheim alleged that Chief Capri abused his position as chief when he threatened and/or coerced members of his police department, who serve as Police Pension Board members, to vote against Winheim's reappointment to the board. The allegations were forwarded to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's (FDLE) Office of Executive Investigations (OEI) Public Corruption Unit (PCU) for follow-up.

This investigative report details the second interview and statement collection from EPD Senior Staff Assistant Megan Hunsicker.

On January 9, 2026, FDLE OEI PCU Inspectors Jackson Athaide and Daniel Barbara conducted a voluntary, sworn, and recorded interview with Hunsicker concerning the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission (CJSTC) form 61 related to former Officer Wilson Santos. The inspectors visited the EPD at 51 East Norton Avenue, Eustis, Florida 32726, to speak with Hunsicker, who opted to have Attorney Laura Hargrove of Gause & Hargrove PLLC present as her legal representative.

On January 6, 2026, Inspector Athaide provided Attorney Hargrove with a form in preparation for the interview with Hunsicker. The form was titled "CJSTC Form 61 – Santos.pdf." It was an Affidavit of Separation related to the departure of former Officer Wilson Santos from the EPD. The form was allegedly completed and signed by Chief Craig Capri on April 11, 2023. Unlike the handwritten form previously provided to [REDACTED] in response to her public records request, the form was typed. Additionally, it contained a different reason for separation (subsection 7F). Inspector Athaide obtained the form through his own public records request to the EPD and from FDLE's Automated Training Management System (ATMS).

For the purposes of this report, the handwritten CJSTC form 61 previously obtained by [REDACTED], which was signed by Accreditation Manager Elena Pasek, will be referred to as CJSTC-61 (1), and the typed form signed by Chief Capri will be referred to as CJSTC-61 (2).

Below is a brief summary of Hunsicker's statement. This summary is not a verbatim transcript of

Case Number: EI-14-0224	Serial #: 18
Author: Athaide-4628	Office: Executive Investigations
Activity Start Date: 01/06/2026	Activity End Date:01/09/2026
Approved By: Cope-3157	

Description: Interview - Megan Hunsicker - 2

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the interview, and the complete recording is attached as a Related Item to this report:

At the beginning of the interview, Inspector Athaide pointed Hunsicker's attention to both CJSTC-61(1) and CJSTC-61(2). Inspector Athaide inquired if Hunsicker recognized CJSTC-61(2), to which she responded, "not that I recall." Inspector Athaide then focused Hunsicker's attention on the completion date of CJSTC-61(2), which was approximately one month after the completion date of CJSTC-61(1), and asked if she was aware of any other CJSTC-61 forms being completed by anyone in relation to the Wilson Santos separation. Hunsicker stated that she was not aware of any other forms being completed other than the one completed by Pasek and herself. Inspector Athaide asked if she knew of anyone else at the EPD who regularly completed CJSTC-61 forms besides Pasek. Hunsicker replied that, to her knowledge, it was only Pasek.

The following will be maintained in the Related Items section of the case file:

INV-19 – A copy of the audio recording of the interview conducted with Megan Hunsicker.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

On October 13, 2025, City of Eustis Police Pension Board of Trustees member Gary Winheim made allegations to the Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) against Eustis Police Department (EPD) Chief of Police Craig Capri for official misconduct and abuse of power. Winheim alleged that Chief Capri abused his position as chief when he threatened and/or coerced members of his police department, who serve as Police Pension Board members, to vote against Winheim's reappointment to the board. The allegations were forwarded to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's (FDLE) Office of Executive Investigations (OEI) Public Corruption Unit (PCU) for follow-up.

This investigative report details the interview and statement collection from EPD Code Enforcement Officer Alexandra Price.

On January 9, 2026, FDLE OEI PCU Inspectors Jackson Athaide and Daniel Barbara conducted a voluntary, sworn, and recorded interview with Price concerning the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission (CJSTC) form 61 related to former Officer Wilson Santos. The inspectors visited the EPD at 51 East Norton Avenue, Eustis, Florida 32726, to speak with Price, who opted to have Attorney Laura Hargrove of Gause & Hargrove PLLC present as her legal representative.

On January 6, 2026, Inspector Athaide provided Attorney Hargrove with a form in preparation for the interview with Price. The form was titled "CJSTC Form 61 – Santos.pdf." It was an Affidavit of Separation related to the departure of former Officer Wilson Santos from the EPD. The form was allegedly completed and signed by Chief Craig Capri on April 11, 2023. The form was notarized on the same day by Price. Unlike the handwritten form previously provided to [REDACTED] in response to her public records request, the form was typed. Additionally, it contained a different reason for separation (subsection 7F). Inspector Athaide obtained the form through his own public records request to the EPD and from FDLE's Automated Training Management System (ATMS).

For the purposes of this report, the handwritten CJSTC form 61 previously obtained by [REDACTED], which was signed by Accreditation Manager Elena Pasek, will be referred to as CJSTC-61 (1), and the typed form signed by Chief Capri will be referred to as CJSTC-61 (2).

Below is a brief summary of Price's statement. This summary is not a verbatim transcript of the

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Author: Athaide-4628	Office: Executive Investigations
Activity Start Date: 01/06/2026	Activity End Date:01/09/2026
Approved By: Cope-3157	

Description: Interview - Alexandra Price

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IR Number	19

interview, and the complete recording is attached as a Related Item to this report:

At the beginning of the interview, Inspector Athaide directed Price's attention to CJSTC-61(2) and inquired if she recognized the form. Price responded that she did. Inspector Athaide then asked if Price had notarized the form, to which she replied affirmatively. Inspector Athaide proceeded to ask if anyone from the EPD records division was involved in the signing and notarization of CJSTC-61(2), and she answered, "No, it was just me and Capri." Inspector Athaide asked if she was aware of any other CJSTC-61 forms being completed in relation to the separation of Wilson Santos, and she said, "Not that I am aware of." Lastly, Inspector Athaide inquired if she was involved in any other part of the separation process, and she replied, "No."

The following will be maintained in the Related Items section of the case file:

INV-20 – A copy of the audio recording of the interview conducted with Alexandra Price.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

On October 13, 2025, City of Eustis Police Pension Board of Trustees member Gary Winheim made allegations to the Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) against Eustis Police Department (EPD) Chief of Police Craig Capri for official misconduct and abuse of power. Winheim alleged that Chief Capri abused his position as chief when he threatened and/or coerced members of his police department, who serve as Police Pension Board members, to vote against Winheim's reappointment to the board. The allegations were forwarded to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's (FDLE) Office of Executive Investigations (OEI) Public Corruption Unit (PCU) for follow-up.

This investigative report details the second interview and statement collection from EPD Chief of Police Craig Capri.

On January 9, 2026, FDLE OEI PCU Inspectors Jackson Athaide and Daniel Barbara conducted a voluntary, sworn, and recorded interview with Chief Capri concerning the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission (CJSTC) form 61 related to former Officer Wilson Santos. The inspectors visited the EPD at 51 East Norton Avenue, Eustis, Florida 32726, to speak with Chief Capri, who opted to have Attorney Laura Hargrove of Gause & Hargrove PLLC present as his legal representative.

On January 6, 2026, Inspector Athaide provided Attorney Hargrove with a form in preparation for the interview with Chief Capri. The form was titled "CJSTC Form 61 – Santos.pdf." It was an Affidavit of Separation related to the departure of former Officer Wilson Santos from the EPD. The form was allegedly completed and signed by Chief Capri on April 11, 2023. The form was notarized on the same day by EPD Code Enforcement Officer Alexandra Price. Unlike the handwritten form previously provided to [REDACTED] in response to her public records request, the form was typed. Additionally, it contained a different reason for separation (subsection 7F). Inspector Athaide obtained the form through his own public records request to the EPD and from FDLE's Automated Training Management System (ATMS).

For the purposes of this report, the handwritten CJSTC form 61 previously obtained by [REDACTED], which was signed by Accreditation Manager Elena Pasek, will be referred to as CJSTC-61 (1), and the typed form signed by Chief Capri will be referred to as CJSTC-61 (2).

Below is a brief summary of Chief Capri's statement. This summary is not a verbatim transcript

Case Number: EI-14-0224	Serial #: 20
Author: Athaide-4628	Office: Executive Investigations
Activity Start Date: 01/06/2026	Activity End Date:01/09/2026
Approved By: Cope-3157	

Description: Interview - Chief Craig Capri - 2

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of the interview, and the complete recording is attached as a Related Item to this report:

At the start of the interview, Inspector Athaide directed Chief Capri's attention to CJSTC-61(1) and confirmed that Chief Capri was aware of the investigation regarding the notary stamp on the form. Inspector Athaide also presented CJSTC-61(2), which was signed by Craig Capri. Inspector Athaide inquired whether Chief Capri was familiar with CJSTC-61(2). Chief Capri replied, *"I'm familiar with the forms themselves, yes. But this is from 2023; if I signed it, then yes, I signed it."* When Inspector Athaide asked if he recalled filling out the form, Chief Capri responded, *"I don't usually fill out the forms; they bring them to me to sign, and I look at it and I'll sign."* He mentioned remembering the Santos case but indicated he did not specifically recall signing the form. Chief Capri acknowledged that the signature on the form was indeed his.

Inspector Athaide then asked Chief Capri if he was aware of the existence of CJSTC-61(1) when he signed CJSTC-61(2), to which Chief Capri replied that he was not aware. Chief Capri further stated, *"If there is one thing I learned from this, it is that I need to look at everything and slow down. I sometimes move at 100 miles an hour, and I have to slow down. A lot of good has come from all this because we have revamped our processes, implementing triple and double checks. I generally just sign things as the chief when they are brought to me. I won't lie; sometimes they bring them to me, and I sign them."*

Inspector Athaide asked Chief Capri if he would have filled out CJSTC-61(2) if he had known it existed. Chief Capri explained that he never fills out the forms, as they are usually brought to him by either the captain or Elena. He claimed not to be an "Admin Guy" and stated that he only signs the administrative CJSTC forms when presented with them. Inspector Athaide then inquired whether Chief Capri had any role in submitting documents to ATMS. Chief Capri stated that aside from signing forms, he does not have any role. When asked if he knew who filled out CJSTC-61(2) before it was presented to him for signature, Chief Capri replied, *"I really don't know."* He mentioned that as a result of the investigation, he has altered his processes and now reviews everything he signs before doing so.

Attorney Hargrove interjected, suggesting that Captain David Carney could have filled out the form and given it to him. Chief Capri acknowledged that it could have been Captain Carney or Captain Kenneth Toler. Inspector Athaide then asked if Chief Capri knew what Carney's position was when CJSTC-61(2) was brought to him for signature. Chief Capri stated he was unsure and that the form could have been brought to him by either Carney or Toler. He further asserted that he would not have signed the form had he known another form existed.

The following will be maintained in the Related Items section of the case file:

INV-21 – A copy of the audio recording of the second interview conducted with Chief Craig Capri.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

On October 13, 2025, City of Eustis Police Pension Board of Trustees member Gary Winheim made allegations to the Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) against Eustis Police Department (EPD) Chief of Police Craig Capri for official misconduct and abuse of power. Winheim alleged that Chief Capri abused his position as chief when he threatened and/or coerced members of his police department, who serve as Police Pension Board members, to vote against Winheim's reappointment to the board. The allegations were forwarded to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's (FDLE) Office of Executive Investigations (OEI) Public Corruption Unit (PCU) for follow-up.

This investigative report details the interview and statement collection from previous EPD Captain David Carney.

On January 12, 2026, FDLE OEI PCU Inspectors Jackson Athaide and Daniel Barbara conducted a voluntary, sworn, and recorded interview with Carney regarding the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission (CJSTC) form 61 related to former EPD Officer Wilson Santos. The inspectors held the interview via Microsoft Teams while physically located at FDLE's OEI Orlando Office.

Before the interview, Inspector Athaide provided Carney with two forms. The first was a handwritten FDLE Affidavit of Separation (CJSTC-61) concerning Santos's separation, which was signed by Accreditation Manager Elena Pasek on March 6, 2023. The second was a typed FDLE Affidavit of Separation (CJSTC-61) related to Santos's separation, signed by Chief Craig Capri on April 11, 2023.

For the purposes of this report, the handwritten CJSTC form 61 signed by Pasek will be referred to as CJSTC-61 (1), and the typed form signed by Chief Capri will be referred to as CJSTC-61 (2).

Below is a brief summary of Carney's statement. This summary is not a verbatim transcript of the interview, and the complete recording is attached as a Related Item to this report:

At the beginning of the interview, Inspector Athaide asked Carney to recall 2023, when Santos was involved in an internal investigation that led to his separation from the EPD. Inspector Athaide then inquired about Carney's role in the EPD at that time. Carney stated that he was

Case Number: EI-14-0224	Serial #: 21
Author: Athaide-4628	Office: Executive Investigations
Activity Start Date: 01/12/2026	Activity End Date:01/12/2026
Approved By: Cope-3157	

Description: Interview - David Carney

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the captain of Internal Affairs. Inspector Athaide asked if he conducted the internal investigation into Santos. Carney replied that he believed he handled most of it, with Captain Toler also involved. Inspector Athaide then asked if Carney was familiar with the FDLE forms required when an officer separates from an agency. Carney mentioned that he had a cheat sheet to ensure he had everything necessary for the case file.

Inspector Athaide directed Carney's attention to CJSTC-61 (1) and CJSTC-61 (2) and asked if he recognized either form as one, he had filled out. Carney stated he could not be 100% certain. He was sure that the handwritten form (CJSTC-61 (1)) was not completed by him. Carney expressed that he was 90% certain that the typed form (CJSTC-61 (2)) was filled out by him since it was neatly completed and electronically typed with the title of chief on the signature line. Carney said this because he would complete the form neatly and place it in the Internal investigation file for Chief Capri's review and signature. Once the file was submitted to Chief Capri, Carney indicated that his role was over and he did not know what happened afterward.

Inspector Athaide asked Carney if he knew of any reason why two CJSTC-61 forms would have been completed for one officer's separation from the agency. Carney stated he was unaware of any reason. Inspector Athaide inquired if Carney was aware of CJSTC-61 (1) when he filled out CJSTC-61 (2). Carney replied that he would not have filled out the form had he known the other existed. Carney acknowledged that the forms needed to be notarized and sent to the city, but he did not participate in that part of the process.

The following will be maintained in the Related Items section of the case file:

INV-22 – A copy of the audio recording of the second interview conducted with David Carney.

WITNESS LIST CASE#: EI-14-0224**LAW ENFORCEMENT**

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Athaide	Jackson	Inspector	500 W Robinson Street	Orlando	FL	32801	407-717-7255
Barbara	Daniel	Inspector	500 W Robinson Street	Orlando	FL	32801	321-390-0996
Joseph	Paduano	LCSO Detective	551 West Main Street	Tavares	FL	32778	352-742-2000
Fahning	Jonathan	EPD Captain	51 E Norton Avenue	Eustis	FL	32726	352-357-4121
Fiedler	Christopher	EPD Officer	51 E Norton Avenue	Eustis	FL	32726	352-357-4121
Horst	Christopher	EPD Sergeant	51 E Norton Avenue	Eustis	FL	32726	352-357-4121
Toler	Kenneth	EPD Captaibn	51 E Norton Avenue	Eustis	FL	32726	352-357-4121
Carney	David	Investigator	4075 Esplanade Way	Tallahassee	FL	32399	352-602-1939

CIVILIAN

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	TITLE	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP	PHONE NUMBER
██████	██████	Mrs.	████████████████	██████	██	████	██████████
Winheim	Gary	Mr.	████████████████	██████	██	████	██████████
Birkhofer	Kenneth	Board Member	51 E Norton Avenue	Eustis	FL	32726	352-409-5446
Hargrove	Laura	Attorney	229 East Main Street	Tavares	FL	32778	352-343-7424
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Fair	Janel	Records Clerk	51 E Norton Avenue	Eustis	FL	32726	352-357-4121
Price	Alexandria	Code Enforcement	51 E Norton Avenue	Eustis	FL	32726	352-357-4121
Pasek	Elena	EPD Accrediation Manager	51 E Norton Avenue	Eustis	FL	32726	352-357-4121

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